FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PRESIDENT CITED ON FALKLANDS, NUCLEAR TREATY

PY241710 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1648 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 May (TELAM) -- President Raul Alfonsin today told leaders of the Popular Left Front that Argentina will not declare a cessation of hostilities and will continue to strive for the return of the Malvinas and South Atlantic Islands. The information was provided by the head of the Popular Left Front, Jorge Abelardo Ramos, after a meeting held with the head of state in the Government House.

[Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish at 1640 GMT on 24 May added these remarks by Abelardo: "Argentina will neither sign the Tlaltelolco Treaty nor the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, 'but will only offer safeguards' to Latin American countries"]

ALFONSIN RECEIVES NICARAGUAN BANK OFFICIAL

PY242239 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1618 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 May (TELAM) -- Fernando Guzman Cuadra, vice president of the Central Bank of Nicaragua, today stated that the Nicaraguan Military Junta is giving full support to the stand adopted by Argentina and other Latin American countries which seek to obtain better payment terms for their foreign debt. Guzman Cuadro spoke to the press after he finished his meeting with President Raul Alfonsin at the Government House early this morning.

Guzman Cuadra said that he discussed with Alfonsin the final details of an agreement for Nicaragua to utilize a $30-million credit which Alfonisn had offered [to Nicaragua] 2 months ago. This agreement is to be signed shortly. In this regard, Guzman Cuadra stated that by utilizing this credit Nicaragua will be able to import Argentine goods, some of which will be routed to the industry.

Guzman Cuadra noted that Alfonsin showed interest in the Nicaraguan institutionalization process, and added that the first step will be taken tomorrow by opening the registry of presidential hopefuls and members of the assembly. Guzman Cuadra commented that the electoral campaign will start on 8 August and that it is to last until 31 October. He believed that the elections will take place on 4 November.

Guzman Cuadra also briefed the Argentine president on the situation in Central America and on the progress being made by the Contadora Group.

S. AFRICAN ENVOY ON NEUTRALITY IN FALKLANDS WAR

PY242033 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1604 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 May (NA) -- Francis Tothill, the South African ambassador to Argentina, has said that his country "remained neutral during the war" of the Malvinas although "considerable pressure was exerted on the South African Government," and he expressed "surprise and disappointment" because "in Argentina the appreciation of our neutrality seems to have been shortlived."

The foreign diplomat pointed out that "a number of countries with which Argentina has friendly ties did not remain neutral," supporting the United Kindom's position in international forums and "applying economic measures against Argentina." The ambassador added that it was not easy for South Africa to maintain its neutrality, since "the United Kingdom is our best trade partner, besides having traditional long-lasting political connections."

Tothill gave a speech on "South African Interests in the South Atlantic" at the University of Belgrano, and he remarked that his country's neutrality during the conflict provoked the United Kingdom's hostility, which is still in evidence. Tothill also referred to South Africa's interest in the Antarctic, saying that from the viewpoint of its resources, "the most promising signs" are the hydrocarbon deposits in the Weddel Sea area, which is part of the South Atlantic and over part of which Argentina claims sovereignty. After talking about the importance of the South Atlantic maritime routes, especially those that go around Cape Town on the way to the Indian Ocean, he remarked that 50 percent of the Western Europe and 20 percent of the U.S. oil supplies pass through that area. "Since the Western world depends so much on the supplies imported via Cape Town for its energy needs, it is obvious that the security of that route should concern the West."

"South Africa is willing," he said, "to cooperate with friendly Western countries in this aspect, but it is obvious that we cannot bear the responsibility alone."

In another part of his long speech, Tothill said that he was not at this time going to defend "the need for a South Atlantic pact, not because we think it does not exist, but because the idea seems to be a divisive factor which makes the countries that would have to participate uncomfortable."

Upon beginning his speech, the ambassador said: "Although we share the worry about the growing Soviet maritime power, which is a menace to the area, our capability to respond to our direct interests in the South Atlantic is more limited than you think."

The diplomat gave a detailed history of his country's origin and the process in which the white population increased, pointing out the similarities and differences with the United States and Argentina. He also referred to the problem of Southwest Africa, or Namibia, which has been under South African control since the First World War.

U.S. ENVOY CITED ON BANK NEGOTIATION OF DEBTS

PY241148 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2352 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 May (DYN) -- U.S. Ambassador Frank Ortiz today noted that his government "will pressure" U.S. private banks "to establish bilateral negotiations" with Latin American nations to refinance their foreign debt. The U.S. ambassador made this brief statement to journalists accredited to Congress at the end of an unscheduled meeting with Peronist legislators.

The meeting between Ortiz, Diego Ibanez, and leading Peronist legislators took place minutes before the start of a special session held to question Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun. Peronist Alberto Melon dissipated all suspicion that surrounded the meeting by noting that it was a "protocol" meeting in which ambassador "came here to introduce us to a new U.S. mission official."

Report on Statement Denied

PY250140 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2110 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 May (DYN) -- A press report stating that U.S. Ambassador Frank Ortiz said that his government reportedly intended to pressure U.S. private banks to establish bilateral negotiations with the Latin American nations to refinance their foreign debts was denied today.

The report spread yesterday in Congress after the meeting that Ambassador Ortiz held there with some Peronist deputies, among them the president of the Peronist bloc, Diego Ibanez, and Alberto Melon. The sole purpose of the abovementioned meeting was to introduce a U.S. Embassy official to the lawmakers. Nonetheless, after the meeting ended, the alleged announcement concerning the negotiations on the foreign debt was attributed to Ortiz.

U.S. Embassy sources voiced their surprise at the report, which, had it been confirmed, would have had special relevance, and for this reason inquiries were made of the persons who attended the meeting in order to learn about the events.

It could be established that although the foreign debt issue was discussed in the meeting that Ortiz held with the lawmakers, it was only slightly touched upon, and that Ortiz had at no time made the announcement that was attributed to him. The misunderstanding apparently arose from a misinterpretation of the statements that Deputy Melon made later to some journalists.

GRINSPUN SAYS $27 BILLION OF DEBT 'UNJUSTIFIED'

PY250024 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 May 84 p 1

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN) -- Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun last night told the Chamber of Deputies that investigations have shown 27,231 billion (thousand million) dollars of the foreign debt were "unjustified" and revealed the Central Bank held 1,528 billion dollars worth of "IOU's", many related to Armed Forces debt incurred during the Malvinas war.

The economy minister also told deputies the government was still waiting for reports on their debts from the Buenos Aires provincial government, the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA), and the Buenos Aires provincial police force. However, he added, "no foreign debt has gone unrecorded" since the present Radical administration took over.

Answering questions by Jorge Matzkin (Justicialist-La Pampa), Grinspun made a clear distinction between "the legitimacy of the inflow of currency as determined by Central Bank accounts and the capital exodus from which the debt results."

When referring to the Malvinas war debt, Grinspun added "the Armed Forces owe even more important sums" which still had to be investigated prior to notification of Congress.

Grinspun again blasted those responsible for the capital exodus which had accompanied the debt but did not specify how the government planned to repatriate the capital abroad. In answer to one of the approximately 25 questions posed by the Peronists, he emphasized the importance of not confusing "the capital exodus with legitimate creditors."

The minister once again blasted the half percentage point increase in the United States prime interest rate as a further "expression of neo-colonialism," pointing out that Argentina "has given clear proof of its willingness to honour all legitimate obligations."

When explaining the origin of the debt, Grinspun stated that during the former military regime there was legislation authorizing private citizens to freely purchase up to 20,000 dollars, most of which found its way abroad.

The questioning, which followed a similar procedure in the Senate last week, started three hours late at 6 pm with only 137 of 254 deputies present. Grinspun was subjected to more aggressive questioning by the Intransigents and the provincial party deputies than by the Peronists, who had originally requested the session. Finance Committee Vice-Chairman Diego Guelar (Justicialist-Buenos Aires) said prior to the session former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron had instructed her party to adopt a more conciliatory tone. But paradoxically, Grinspun appeared to be more nervous than in the Senate.

Prior to the session, the minister held a private meeting with House Speaker Juan Carlos Pugliese (Radical-Buenos Aires), and Majority Caucus Leader Cesar Jaroslavsky (Radical-Entre Rios), who were later joined by Jesus Rodriguez (Radical-Capital), Jose Manzano (Justicialist-Mendoza), and Guelar to discuss the strategy to be followed for questioning.

Comments on IMF Negotiations

PY241754 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0441 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 May (TELAM) -- Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun tonight affirmed that the government is prepared to face up to the situation that may result from an eventual Argentine decision not to resort to the IMF for renegotiating the country's large foreign debt.

Questioned at the Chamber of Deputies during a session that was still going on past 2300, Grinspun admitted that negotiating with the IMF was not considered necessary, but warned that if Argentina negotiates with the IMF and refuses to accept that institution's rules, the country will not have access to IMF funds. He added: We cannot say that we will not resort to the IMF, or that we will not comply with the institution's rules, which are set by members who are representatives of governments. Thus Grinspun answered a question of a political character asked by Deputy Diego Guelar (Justicialist Party, Buenos Aires) regarding the foreign debt renegotiation which the government is undertaking, a renegotiation Guelar says is contradictory.

In remarks that lasted 40 minutes, Deputy Guelar, who is chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, also criticized the document which was signed between presidential adviser Raul Prebisch and IMF Director-Manager Jacques de Larosiere, noting that it contains clauses which will have recessionary effects. Grinspun called the document an aide-memoire.

Raising his voice and emphasizing his words, Grinspun answered Deputy Guelar by asking what sovereignty and interests have been given up in signing an aide-memoire. Grinspun defended the document, explained its characteristics, and pointed out that the IMF agreed to Argentina's position not to worsen recession and unemployment when it was told of the Argentine Government's emergency economic policy.

Grinspun sharply denied that there was any inconsistency between his words and those of adviser Prebisch. Guelar had spoken of such an inconsistency.

At the end, Grinspun received a thunderous applause from the UCR [Radical Civic Union] when he refuted Guelar's speculation that Argentina might go so far as signing a formal cessation of hostilities over the Malvinas Islands with Great Britain in the context of the renegotiation of the foreign debt.

PERON MEETS WITH UNION, POLITICAL LEADERS

PY241120 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 May 84 p 1

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN) -- Former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron met with the "two sons God has given me," General Confederation of Labour (CGT) leaders Saul Ubaldini and Jorge Triaca, afterwards announcing her wish to "address workers next week" at a meeting of regional and national CGT secretaries-general.

The Justicialist Party chief also met with 11 of the 12 Peronist governors, promising to request and accompany the governors at a future meeting with Alfonsin. Mrs Peron reportedly told the governors of her concern that "union leaders continue to paralyze the country."

Last night Mrs Peron met with almost 100 Peronist national deputies. Caucus leader Diego Ibanez said after the 90 minute meeting the party chief advised congressmen to offer a "constructive" opposition to the Radical government.

Peronist sources yesterday said Justicialist National Board members felt "snubbed" by Mrs Peron's favouritism towards the Liaison Committee and noted Mrs Peron's decision to have Committee member Juan Labake brief Alfonsin on Peronist affairs during Monday's talks. Santiago del Estero Governor Carlos Juarez, second vice-president of the Board, admitted "discrepancies" exist and attributed these to the "excessively exclusive participation" by Labake.

Questioned after the meeting if the results of Mrs Peron's talks with Alfonsin would alter the latter's strategy, Triaca replied: "The movement's interests are the same as the people's needs, and hence cannot be altered in any way." Triaca nonetheless offered labour's support for statements made by Mrs Peron to Alfonsin that "First there is the Fatherland, then the fatherland, and finally the fatherland."

During the 90 minutes with the Peronist governors, Mrs Peron reportedly acknowledged she had told Alfonsin she is "at your orders" and said she accepted the Radical call for talks because the government "is too worn out."

The only Peronist governor not present was Francisco Riera (Tucuman), who is ill.

Board sources yesterday said party leaders agreed to approve Mrs Peron's handling of Monday's talks with the President only because of "party discipline." At a Board meeting Monday night, party vice-president Lorenzo Miguel reportedly took Mrs Peron's decision to have Labake address Alfonsin as the sign that Labake will continue as the "valid spokesman" for Peronism when the former President returns to Madrid.

Buenos Aires party boss Herminio Iglesias allegedly told Board members "whatever they agree on, I'm still going to give it to" the Radical government. Party secretary Carlos Spadone reportedly said "we're returning to the past," referring to Mrs Peron's "new entourage," i.e., the Liaison Committee.

Union Leaders Comment

PY241533 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2254 GMT 22 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 May (TELAM) -- Jorge Triaca, one of the secretaries general of the reunified CGT [General Confederation of Labor] today stated that Mrs Peron is acquainted with the true scope of the problem that is troubling justicialism, that is, how paradoxical and traumatic it is for a movement like ours to be defeated at the ballot boxes when it was believed to be invincible. Triaca spoke to the press after he came out of the meeting of former President Isabel Peron with the unified CGT leadership at her hotel.

All of this should be analyzed after the institutionalization of leadership and order within the movement, said Triaca, who added that Mrs Peron can no doubt consolidate the Peronist movement even from outside the country, because the consensus she musters in the movement and in the rank and file is demonstrated every time she comes to Argentina.

Referring to Mrs Peron's meeting with Alfonsin yesterday, Triaca said that we support the idea of upholding institutions and above all, presidential authority, without meaning that we will accept uniformity of positions, because that will preclude debate which is an admirable and necessary feature of democracy.

Referring to the same meeting, Saul Ubaldini said that he had been congratulated by Mrs Peron for what has been done so far, adding that she was very pleased that one of the four CGT secretaries was not a Peronist, namely, Ramon Baldassini. Secretary Ubaldini spoke to the press at Ezeiza as he was about to fly to Brussels, Belgium, to participate in the Assembly of the International Conference of Free Trade Union Organizations [ICFTUO]. He said that at the assembly he will try to take back the ICFTUO vice presidency for the Argentine labor movement.

Asked if he thought Alfonsin was trying to divide Peronism, Ubaldini replied that that has been said at times and that the head [Mrs Peron] of the movement should now talk about it. He added that it is being said that Alfonsin and Isabel will have another meeting.

Regarding labor matters, he said that a request has been made to the labor minister to return the social works to the workers, who are their only owners, adding that possible solutions had already been submitted to the minister regarding the question of salary, the scheduling of collective labor bargainings, and the increase of the minimum salary with an escalator clause. After noting that the trade unionists were expecting an answer, Ubaldini announced that there will be another meeting with the labor minister next Monday at 1100 and that he would try to return to the country the day before.

He concluded by saying that there is nothing personal in desiring to secure the ICFTUO vice presidency again for Argentina, but it would be for all Argentine workers, although Brazil and other African nations also have candidates.

CASELLA, CGT REPORTEDLY AGREE ON UNION ELECTIONS

PY241115 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 May 84 p 11

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- The government and the unified General Confederation of Labour (CGT) have "wholly agreed" on union electoral plans, CGT leader Osvaldo Borda said yesterday after the four CGT secretaries-general met with Labour Minister Juan Manuel Casella.

Final touches to the plans will be made at a new meeting next Monday, Borda said after the hour-long talks. Wage demands and control of workers' social welfare funds, issues not tackled yesterday, will be studied on Monday, he added. Borda said only "minor details" had yet to be worked out with the government on plans for elections at the factory and federation level.

Secretary-general Saul Ubaldini earlier denied discussion would include the issue of which CGT members would accompany Casella to Geneva on June 4 for the annual International Labour Organization (ILO) conference. Ubaldini yesterday afternoon left for Brussels where he will represent the unified CGT before the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. The CGT has nominated Ubaldini to fill one of the confederation's vice-presidencies.

Questioned at Ezeiza airport, Ubaldini stressed differences with the government still exist on the wage issue, citing that CGT figures estimate the "shopping-basket" of family goods at $A19,276 while government figures are some $A2,500 lower.

Another CGT secretary-general, Jorge Triaca, yesterday said the unified CGT would "support the government only if answers are given to the worries of the people."

On the strike front, public sector petroleum workers in Rio Gallegos, Rio Grande, and Ushuaia called off a 48-hour strike originally slated for today after YPF state oil company complied with demands to rehire 300 laid-off workers and awarded special travel benefits.

The Mining Workers' Association yesterday called on its 30,000 members to lay down tools next Monday after talks with employers failed to meet miners' wage demands.

In Tucuman, workers at the Nunorcolsugar plantation ended their takeover of the work-site after Governor Fernando Riera guaranteed the financially-troubled firm would participate in this year's harvest. Sugar workers at the state-owned Las Palmas plantation in Resistencia meanwhile ended their strike after being paid wages owed since last April.

RAILWAY STRIKE CONTINUES; MORE STRIKES DUE

PY250020 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 May 84 p 11

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- Railway workers paralyzed the country yesterday amid reports of new strike action in June unless wage demands were met, while a 24-hour work stoppage by subway workers failed to completely halt service on the five lines.

The Telephone Workers Federation (FOETRA) meanwhile geared up for today's 24-hour strike call expected to affect services in the interior. The Buenos Aires branch has refused to back decisions taken by federation leaders.

Government-called talks on union election plans finish up today with Labour Minister Juan Manuel Casella meeting the Union Liaison Board at 11:30 am. Casella on Tuesday met with unified General Confederation of Labour leaders who approved the government initiative.

Four railway union branches in the Greater Buenos Aires area agreed on a new rail strike for June 4 unless the government granted a $A5,000 pay hike and a $A14,000 minimum monthly wage.

Subway services were reported near normal by a company spokesman with only the A and C lines getting to a late start yesterday morning. Company president Nicolas Gallo yesterday refused to meet union leaders, arguing "I'm on strike, too," according to one unionist.

Workers belonging to the Textile Workers' Association and the Association of Communications Unions were placed on state of alert in preparation for protest measures.

Miners and white-collor staff with the YCF state coal board began four-hour work stoppages yesterday to demand a $A10,000 minimum monthly wage.

A strike by merchant marine employees was averted after employers agreed to study union demands. The employees' association kept its members on a state of alert "in case no concrete solutions are reached."

President Raul Alfonsin yesterday lunched with 30 unionists independent of the three main union groupings. Alfonsin and the labour leaders reportedly discussed union election plans, workers' wage demands and the issue of workers' social welfare funds.

SUPPLIERS UNION THREATENS ARMY FOOD SUPPLY

PY230210 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 May 84 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Food supply to Army units will be cut off tomorrow due to payment delays of 120 days "in a large number of units with significant purchasing power," the State Suppliers' Union (UAPE) announced yesterday. UAPE warned there is not a "critical situation for both suppliers and the state, which will soon be deprived of the most elementary supplies."

Defence Ministry sources admitted "there have been some delays" in paying suppliers, adding negotiations are being held with the finance secretariat in the hope of solving the situation. UAPE claimed all state organizations are between 60 and 180 days behind in their payments, and explained that an assembly held May 15 decided to "suspend the supply of fresh or dried foodstuffs to all Army units nationwide until a real and effective solution to the delays is produced." They said the Army, which is behind in payments by about 185 days with prices fixed in October of 1983," made many promises but has so far produced no results. The organization acknowledged the country's difficult situation and declared itself "willing to cooperate in its solution, pointing out a proposal they submitted to the finance secretariat to help solve the problem was not answered.

Armed Forces and UAPE representatives were to meet late last night to negotiate a solution and avert the stern measure scheduled for tomorrow, Defence Ministry sources said.

UAPE manager Daniel Arguello said government delays in paying for supplies affected about 3,200 firms, with Army suppliers being the hardest hit. The Army, he said, started to fall behind in payments immediately after the Radical government rose to power, and the "damage to suppliers is irreparable." Other bad payers are the water and sewage state utility (Obras Sanitarias de la Nacion), "which has not paid a thing since last March 30," and the Buenos Aires municipality, "which is behind by between 45 and 60 days," said Arguello.

MORE JUDGES PROPOSED FOR HUMAN RIGHTS CASES

PY250330 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 May 84 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Defence Minister Raul Borras yesterday submitted to President Raul Alfonsin a draft decree authorizing the Armed Forces Supreme Council to appoint military judges to aid it in hearing the human rights violations cases against servicemen, government sources said. They added Alfonsin would probably issue the decree next week. Council Chairman Brigadier Luis Maria Fages said when consulted on this issue: "I respect the President's opinions."

Commenting on the slowness of Supreme Council procedures, Emilio Mignone, the chairman of the Centre for Social and Legal Studies (CELS), charged "the military courts neither have done nor will do anything (because) their goal is to kill time to see whether people forget, or to let the democratic government wear itself away trying to recover their strength and prestige."

FORMER B.A. MAYOR ARRESTED, ASSETS ATTACHED

PY250242 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 May 84 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Former Buenos Aires Mayor Osvaldo Cacciatore was put under preventive arrest by Trial Judge Alfredo Olivan, who also posted a five-billion-peso (about 77 million dollars) attachment on his assets, after finding him prima facie guilty of fraudulent administration. The judge had detained the retired Air Force brigadier earlier this year in the court case investigating irregularities in the awarding of the franchise for the operation of Interama Amusement Park.

Judge Olivan said in his ruling released yesterday "the contract signed by Cacciatore on January 15, 1982, established the municipality irrevocably waived all claims to the daily non-fulfillment fine of 30,000 dollars which Interama SA was to have paid according to the original franchise contract signed on April 10, 1980."

He also said the municipality guaranteed over 148 million dollars in loans to Interama when existing regulations did not authorize it to guarantee more than 40 million, and later had to pay large sums to service Interama's debts, owing to the company's inability to pay them. These totalled more than ten million dollars, paid to the New York branch of Banco de la Nacion and to the Panama branch of Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires.

The judge mentioned that Cacciatore later issued a secret decree to pay further interest on Interama debts to Banco de la Nacion and paid the company a large compensation for works which Interama claimed should have been carried out by the municipality. Olivan said the original contract established all works would be carried out by the company, adding at the time the compensation was paid Interama actually owed the municipality a sum larger than the compensation.

VARIOUS GROUPS REACT TO TERRORIST BOMBINGS

Armed Forces Command Condemns

PY241508 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The attack against the military court building was intended to intimidate the members of this court who are prosecuting terrorists in a well-known case. This statement is included in a communique released last night by the commanding chief of the Armed Forces.

The communique forwarded to Radio Panamericana reads as follows: The commanding chief of the Armed Forces has the duty to inform the people of the regrettable death of Corporal (Lucio Ali Autipa), who was a victim of a terrorist attack against the military court where he was standing guard.

Notwithstanding the call made by the Armed Forces in due time, summoning all people to an accord, to peace, and to understanding, taking into account the difficult situation, and considering dialogue indispensable in finding a solution to the conflict, avoiding empty antagonisms and useless confrontations which contribute no valid solutions to our current difficulties, the military court building was the object of a vandalistic attack yesterday aimed at intimidating the members of this court, which is trying terrorists in a case known to all. This reprehensible behavior of those who refuse to accept our legislation within the current state of law, sponsored by instructors of terrorist activities, is absolutely repudiated by all Bolivians.

In view of these events, the commanding chief of the Armed Forces, in addition to expressing the formal protest and repudiation of the institution, warns that military guards have been given orders to take action against all suspect elements found on the premises of military quarters.

Moreover, the appropriate authorities have been asked to make every effort to find these terrorists so that they may be punished with all the force of the law, and also those who promote crimes against noble citizens who fulfill the sacred task of serving the nation.

[Signed] Public Relations Department of the Commanding Chief of the Armed Forces of the nation

COB Leaders Repudiate Attack

PY241824 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 May 84

[Excerpt] Talks between COB [Bolivian Labor Federation] leaders and the UDP [Democratic and Popular Unity] top leadership have begun. These talks, first with the UDP executive board, will serve to brief the president of the Republic on the subjects he will discuss with COB leaders, since the COB has refused several times to hold talks with ministers of the economic area.

Tomas Cabrera, of the COB National Executive Board, at the request of Radio Panamericana, will give us a partial report on the talks between the UDP and the COB.

[Begin Cabrera recording] The COB releases the following declaration to all Bolivian people: Repudiation to warmongering terrorism.

The terrorist attack last night against the press workers union and the military court have all the characteristics of a wicked plan aimed at creating the conditions for a military intervention.

First of all, the simultaneous nature of the action shows that these attacks are not conceived or carried out by unorganized groups. The synchronization of these actions is evidence that they are part of a planned political project whose objective is to provoke the country and the Armed Forces to seek the return to the ill-fated experience which prepared Garcia Meza's coup in July 1980. [end recording]

MIR Issues Communique

PY241822 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 May 84

[Excerpt] The Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] has released a communique to the communications media expressing its categorical repudiation against the terrorist attacks on Tuesday night in La Paz, and previously in other cities of the country. The document is signed by Antonio Aranibar and Oscar Eid Franco.

Factory Workers Communique

PY241823 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Factory workers throughout the country have categorically condemned the recent attack against the military court and against the press workers union in La Paz. In a communique released to the news media, the General Confederation of Bolivian Factory Workers states that the Bolivian people are morally threatened to live again through the black days of the Bolivian history, with systems which are contrary to the workers aspirations.

The communique states that the attack on the military court has no other objective than to convince the Armed Forces to adopt a position in view of the attempts of the enemies of democracy to create a climate of chaos and anarchy.

The factory workers conclude that government leaders must show to the Bolivian people the disposition to defend the democratic process, and calls all factory workers to stay alert to reject any attempt to destabilize the state of law.

PRESIDENT SILES ORDERS SPECIAL ARMY PATROLS

PY240310 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 84

[Excerpt] The Armed Forces, in response to instructions from the captain general and constitutional president of the Republic, has ordered the mobilization of special patrols to safeguard national internal security. Efforts are being made to adopt concrete measures to safeguard the tranquillity of the people and prevent the type of terrorist actions which are being carried out by clandestine and antidemocratic forces.

This information was provided by Army Commander General Simon Cejas Tordoya. He said:

[Begin Cejas recording] There are instructions from our captain general of the Armed Forces, and therefore we have given instructions to all the Military Police units to cooperate with the police in carrying out patrols (?to prevent) the criminal attacks being carried out at night from taking place again, criminal attacks that I am sure the people strongly reject. [end recording]

SILES REPORTS ON PROGRESS OF UDP-COB DIALOGUE

PY242000 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 May 84

[Excerpts] The president of the nation has indicated that the worst national problems inherited from past governments can be resolved within a framework of understanding. Talking to COB [Bolivian Labor Federation] leaders, he said that we have established that the plan proposed by the government and the COB emergency plan coincide in many aspects, which means that solutions are up to us, the government, and COB leaders. We must disregard individual and partisan interests and analyze these problems objectively, the executive emphasized.

Addressing approximately 10 journalists the chief of state urged the leaders of national organizations to carry out the mission entrusted to them. He said that the problems can be solved through good will and self-sacrifice and an objective analysis free from partisan and personal bias.

After the ceremony held at Miraflores General Headquarters today, Siles Zuazo discussed various aspects of the social problems which the government is having to deal with as as result of COB demands. He said:

[Begin Siles recording] [Words indistinct]...but I believe that our people can cope with the challenge, will defend freedom and democracy, and will contribute their efforts to reactivate production so as to help overcome the difficulties which plague not only our people, but also -- as you journalists know well -- our neighboring nations, as a result of a worldwide crisis whose fallout has affected Latin Americans. [end recording]

President Siles Zuazo went on to say that the government truly intends to resolve all national problems through dialogue. He reminded COB leaders that for those who have the well-being of the nation in mind there can be no political enemies in these times of crisis.

[Begin Siles recording] I would like to make a disclosure. A few weeks ago, at a meeting with the COB executive secretary, sponsored by Roberto Jordan Pando, I told the latter that as representatives of the government and the labor movement we should not adopt irreconciliable stands because the economic programs of both government and COB coincide in many basic aspects. Had an effort been made, it is possible that the difficulties would have been resolved a long time ago. Unfortunately, I obtained no answers on that occasion.

However, as Bolivians and servants of this nation it is our duty to explore every possible agreement that would take care of national interests first, disregarding political, partisan, or personal interests, especially those which could constitute an obstacle for the progress of the nation.

I believe that the people are aware of this. I have faith in these people who under difficult circumstances have always been able to overcome negative factors, cope with the situation and provide solutions, beneficial for the nation in general. This is our permanent stand. We have no right to have political enemies. [end recording]

Thus, President Hernan Siles Zuazo again urged COB leaders to engage in dialogue in order to resolve the difficult national problems.

END OF CENTRAL BANK EMPLOYEES STRIKE IN SIGHT

PY241826 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The hunger strike of Central Bank employees will be discontinued in view of the talks which have begun between COB [Bolivian Labor Federation] and UDP [Democratic and Popular Unity] leaders.

This morning the COB issued a communqiue stating that in connection with the strike of Central Bank workers, the UDP and the COB have agreed to the following:

1. The government will withdraw the police forces today.

2. The workers will return to their jobs under the same conditions as prevailed in the institution prior to police takeover.

3. The government will give the workers full guarantees for carrying on with the tasks.

This agreement was submitted for the consideration of the Federation of Central Bank Employees which accepted it. It is expected that the agreement will be signed this afternoon and the hunger strike will be lifted immediately afterwards.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS L.A. FOREIGN DEBT MEETING

PY230250 Paris AFP in Spanish 0024 GMT 22 May 84

[Excerpts] La Paz, 21 May (AFP) -- It was officially reported here today that Bolivia fully supports the proposal of the presidents of Argentina, Mexico, Colombia, and Brazil to hold a conference that will discuss a common plan for the payment of the growing foreign debt.

Bolivian Foreign Minister Gustavo Fernandez told AFP that he has taken this position at the request of President Hernan Siles Zuazo, who expressly entrusted him with supporting the joint statement of Presidents Raul Alfonsin, Miguel de la Madrid, Belisario Betancur, and Joao Batista Figueiredo, released last 19 May.

Foreign Minister Fernandez recalled that Siles Zuazo summoned a meeting of Latin American presidents in order to assume a joint position on the foreign debt problem, in the speech he gave immediately after taking office on 10 October 1982, but that there was no positive response to the summons at that time.

MANEUVERS OF PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFULS VIEWED

PY242045 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 May 84 p 3

[From the "Notes and Information Page" by F.M.: "Maluf Only Fears Pact of Minas Gerais Politicians"]

[Excerpts] Sabotaging the possible alliance of Aureliano Chaves and Tancredo Neves is the priority goal of Paulo Maluf's grouping. The former Sao Paulo governor is convinced, and has already convinced his followers, that the only risk to his race for Planalto Palace would be posed by the candidacy of the governor of Minas Gerais, Tancredo Neves. Especially if the governor manages to unite all the opposition parties and secure the support of Aureliano Chaves and of PDS [Social Democratic Party] dissidents over the question of indirect elections.

The Tancredo Neves problem was discussed a few days ago by Paulo Maluf with several deputies who follow his directives; the discussion took place during a dinner at Maluf's residence located near Blue Lake in Brasilia. This meeting was attended by PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] deputy for Rio de Janeiro, Daso Coimbra. The discussion led to the conclusion that, if Tancredo Neves is launched as a candidate in the indirect elections, the support which Paulo Maluf hopes to obtain from the PMDB will be reduced to six or eight votes at the most.

If the Minas Gerais governor balks, preferring to fulfill his mandate at the Palacio da Liberdade [the state government house], Maluf will obtain the support of at least 23 PMDB men, for sure. In view of the information presented, the former Sao Paulo governor and his closest backers reached the conclusion that they must work fast to block the Chaves-Neves alliance.

The action plan is already under way. Several PDS men have confidentially said that they are not thinking of joining the rebellion movement at the Electoral College, aimed at defeating the PDS candidate officially nominated by the party's national convention. As everything indicates, Maluf will be the favorite at the party's convention.

Moderate sectors of the PMDB believe in the possibility of reversing the result of the indirect elections, provided a great coalition can be formed, bringing together Aureliano Chaves, Ulysses Guimaraes, Franco Montoro, Jose Richa, Leonel Brizola, Luis Inacio da Silva, and their respective deputies and senators. They are all electors at the Electoral College. Tancredo Neves is considered the best "competitor" to run against the official candidate. Franco Montoro, Jose Richa, Fernando Henrique Cardoso, Leonel Brizola, Roberto Gusmao, Affonso Camargo, and many others are convinced that the candidacy of Tancredo Neves raises possibilities of victory.

According to its moderate leaders, the PMDB will not present another "anticandidate"; as was done with Ulysses Guimaraes in 1974 and with General Euler Bentes in 1978.

Yesterday, for instance, coordinators of the so-called Unity Group of the PMDB, in fact a group led by the governor of Minas Gerais, met with Aureliano Chaves.

The acting president and "presidential hopeful" told Joao Agripino, Walber Guimaraes, Roberto Cardozo Alves, Oswaldo Lima Filho, Heraclito Fortes, Jorge Vargas and Carlos Santana that he would not stand in the way of a possible understanding with the opposition in the search for a candidate capable of obtaining support from political parties and of making a positive impression on public opinion.

In principle, a candidate of the PDS which is the majority party will be preferable. However, the opposition knows that President Figueiredo and other government sectors do not accept Aureliano Chaves as a candidate. The Planalto Palace should have its particular reasons not to support a candidate who is recognized for his administrative ability, honesty, public-mindedness, work ethics and, above all, for the proven support he has from society.

For the government, Mario Andreazza and Paulo Maluf are, in that order, the reliable candidates until proven to the contrary. Before ever thinking of supporting Aureliano Chaves, Planalto Palace would think of backing other men, such as Jarbas Passarinho or Rubem Ludwig. The government has not yet considered Marco Maciel, perhaps because he has very similar "defects" very similar to those of Vice President Chaves.

FINANCE MINISTER GALVEAS DISCUSSES DEBT TERMS

PY250225 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Finance Minister Ernane Galveas today denied that the Brazilian Government has already decided to renegotiate its foreign debt on the basis of a 10-year term and a 5-year grace period, and that this proposal would be submitted at the meeting to be held in Bogota on 14 and 15 June. Galveas said that such a proposal is not advantageous because Brazil is interested in negotiating the longest possible terms and the lowest interest rate at the smallest risk.

GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATES DEALS WITH LIBYA, OTHERS

PY232135 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 20 May 84 p 30

[Excerpts] Braspetro [Petrobras International, Inc] is negotiating the sale of engineering equipment and services for more than $1 billion (1.5 trillion cruzeiros) to Iraq, Libya, and Angola.

In Libya, Braspetro is negotiating the sale of oil platforms, engineering services, and the creation of a research center. In Angola, it submitted proposals to sell oil platforms and to develop an oil field. In Iraq, the proposals include oil pipelines and storage facilities and systems.

The Petrobras negotiations over the return of the Majnoon oil field (which could produce up to 300,000 barrels daily, a production level that surpasses that of the Campos basin, had been strongly criticized. Petrobras acting Vice President Reynaldo Aloy recalls that the war would completely change the situation, because it prevented the development of the field, which would have called for an investment of more than $1.7 billion (3 trillion cruzeiros) in 3 years, that is, at the time when Brazil began experiencing its hard currency crisis.

Aloy explains that, except for Majnoon, Braspetro has thus far found no large oil field abroad. There are good prospects for finding oil in the PRC and Libya; Braspetro is also searching for oil in asscoiation with local state or multinational companies in Guatemala, Angola, Congo, Algeria, Yemen, and India. It is also selling services at no risk in Trinidad and Tobago, Ecuador, Uruguay, and Iraq.

GOVERNMENT SEEKS RECIPROCAL TRADE WITH SUPPLIERS

PY242324 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 23 May 84 p 16

[Text] Yesterday, Carlos Santana, the Petrobras commercial manager, who has just returned from a trip to the Middle East, said that during the second half of 1984 Brazil will only buy oil from those countries that reciprocate by importing Brazilian products. Thus far, the purchases from Abu Dhabi and Libya have been suspended and this could also be the case with Kuwait and Qatar.

"Despite the aggravation of the Iran-Iraq war, the market remains decidedly favorable for oil buyers, something which permits us to exclude those countries which buy nothing from Brazil," Santana stated. He recalled that although Saudi Arabia buys little from Brazil, "it is a permanent supplier during crisis times and it grants exceptional terms." Due to a lack of reciprocity, Brazil cut down the purchases from Mexico from 60,000 to 40,000 barrels daily.

Santana's statements even caught Petrobras technicians who were figuring on price hikes and the troubles involving the purchase of oil offguard. Santana said that after the barrel of oil reached $31, it went back to $30, which is barely $1 above the quotations prevailing in recent months.

The Iraqi minister of oil will arrive in Brazil in June. He will discuss the maintenance of oil sales to Brazil, something which is linked to the sale of Brazilian industrial products.

VILLAR DE AQUINO REELECTED HEAD OF MILITARY CLUB

PY242343 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 May 84 p 5

[All figures as published]

[Excerpt] Yesterday General Tasso Villar de Aquino disclosed the partial results of the elections in the Military Club in which he was reelected. The general said that the elections did not compromise military unity and that he feels honored by the support of the high military command. "We continue united as we have always been. Some fellow members may feel isolated but we are going to meet again" said the general who is going to be reinstalled on 26 June.

He disclosed the partial results which assured him victory with 53.5 percent of the total votes of 6,890. The candidate of the opposition, Army General Antonio Carlos de Andrada Serpa, obtained 33.6 percent of the votes.

MINISTER BACKS JOINT FOREIGN DEBT NEGOTIATIONS

PY241716 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle yesterday said that as President Pinochet said on 21 May, a cable has been sent to the Argentine president congratulating him on his decision to seek a joint solution to the foreign debt of Latin American countries and supporting this attitude. The proposal was also made by Brazil, Mexico, and Colombia.

The foreign minister added that President Alfonsin has already answered the message of his Chilean counterpart, thanking him for his support. He went on to say that no date has been set for the summit meeting. He indicated that all this shows clearly that the entire continent wants the problem of the foreign debt resolved jointly.

He explained that this does not contradict the agreement entered by former Finance Minister Carlos Caceres who indicated that Chile is prepared to negotiate and fulfill the demands of the IMF. However, it would be absurd for Chile to negotiate under unfavorable conditions while the other countries of the continent were doing so under the best conditions possible. I believe, Del Valle said, that our country will never accept something like this.

He added that the meetings within the framework of the Beagle mediation will be resumed next week.

PDC REJECTS DRAFT STATUTE ON POLITICAL PARTIES

PY241849 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 15 May 84 p C 3

[Excerpt] After its political commission met over the past weekend, the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] has decided to reject the draft of the political parties statute.

A declaration made public yesterday by PDC President Gabriel Valdes states that "the statute is unacceptable because it does not contribute to reaching agreements or to discussing the structure of the parties and the type of elections in which they will participate; it says nothing as to how the elections will be organized, with what kind of registration books, electoral courts, public liberties, access to communications media, etc. More important yet is to know what powers the Constitution will have to recognize people, through universal suffrage and the party system."

The declaration also states the PDC conviction that "the deep crisis" Chile is experiencing can only be resolved to the extent that the most diverse political and social forces can reach an agreement on a constitutional order that can guarantee the full practice of democracy.

DEL VALLE SAYS NO WARRANT OUT FOR QUINZIO

PY241432 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 May 84

[Excerpts] Political leader Jorge Mario Quinzio is only a guest at the Venezuelan Embassy because neither the investigative police nor the National Intelligence Center [CNI] have issued a warrant for his arrest. This information was disclosed yesterday by Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle, who met with (Jorge Osvaldo Gambao), charge d'affaires of the Venezuelan Embassy. The latter went to the Foreign Ministry to explain that Jorge Mario Quinzio came to the embassy on Friday because he felt that he was being harassed.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle emphasized that there are no warrants out for the arrest of Mario Quinzio. [Begin Del Valle recording] There are no warrants out for the arrest of this person, and both the investigative police and the CNI have assured us that they are not out to get him and that the raids which he mentioned have not taken place. That is the information I have. [end recording]

WORKERS BEGIN FASTS IN SUPPORT OF MINEWORKERS

PY232145 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 22 May 84

[Excerpt] The San Antonio Regional Workers Command has reported that 11 leaders of various labor unions in this port held a 72-hour fast this past weekend in solidarity with the copper mineworkers and the San Antonio workers. A group of Christians at the Puente Alto Church is holding a 48-hour fast, which may be extended, in Las Mercedes Church hall in solidarity with the seven copper mineworkers [who are fasting in Rancagua]. They say that they want to give this fast a real meaning and that the motivations that led them to this fast, according to a statement which has just been released, are the following: The sacred right to work, the respect for human life, the lack of freedom and justice, the complete loss of democracy, and the social, economic, and moral crisis in which our country is submerged. Our fast, the statement further notes, is a nonviolent protest, a gesture of sacrifice and penance which we are making with the hope that it will arouse in every worker, resident, and student of our country an awareness of the example set by the copper mineworkers.

In the meantime, at the Diario de Cooperativa program we are now receiving reports from the 6th region on the activities of the Committee for Solidarity With the El Teniente Mineworkers who are on a hunger strike. Go ahead, Benito Casanova, we are on a hunger strike. Go ahead, Benito Casanova, we are listening to you.

[Begin Casanova relay] Good afternoon, Sergio. To hold a massive, aggressive, and solidary day of fasting for 24 hours on 25 May at 1100 in the [name indistinct] and to permanently join all the activities that are to be carried out on 25 May is another of the decisions made by the solidarity committee which has recently been established to give support to the 7 mineworkers from the El Teniente division of CODELCO [Copper Corporation of Chile] who have been suspended and who today entered their 24th day of an indefinite hunger strike. This is what the president of the solidarity committee, Eduardo Diaz Solis, told El Diario de Cooperativa. [end relay]

Pinochet: No Reinstatement

PY241152 Paris AFP in Spanish 0021 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Santiago, 23 May (AFP) -- President Augusto Pinochet today warned that the seven Chilean miners who have been on a hunger strike for 25 days will not be reinstated in their jobs. The miners have said that they will continue the hunger strike to the very last so that government officials will overrule their dismissal from the El Teniente Copper Mine, 120 km southeast of Santiago.

However, General Pinochet said: They will not be reinstated in their jobs because if they do I will be facing hunger strikes all over Chile. Therefore, there will be no contracts, said Pinochet, according to information released by the semiofficial press agency ORBE. The seven miners, who are showing noticeable signs of weakness due to their prolonged strike, were fired for participating in a strike protesting the arrest of union leader Rodolfo Seguel in the middle of last year.

VICE PRESIDENT ON FOREIGN DEBT PAYMENT, MEETING

PA240436 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 May 84

[Excerpt] Ecuadoran Vice President Leon Roldos today said that the idea of the four countries that proposed a regional congress to consider the foreign debt is praiseworthy.

Regarding the proposal reported in international press dispatches that the term for the payment of the foreign debt be set at 15 years, Roldos found it reasonable, adding that the grace period should not be less than 7 years. The flow of fresh resources should also be considered because at present Latin America is practically devoid of exchange, he said.

LEGISLATURE PROBES DRUG TRAFFICKING CHARGE

PA241755 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 May 84

[Report by Felix Narvaez]

[Text] The full legislature has just approved by majority vote a motion introduced by Representative Wilfredo Lucero and seconded by Representative (Gil Barragan Romero), both of the Popular Democracy Party, to summon Vladimiro Alvarez Grau, minister of government and justice, to appear on Wednesday, the day chosen by Legislature President (Gary Esparta).

Alvarez is to respond to allegations about drug trafficking involving incumbent and future legislators. Representative (Gil Barragan Romero) introduced a motion to discuss this at the beginning of the present legislative session. Representative (Barragan Romero) said at the start of the session that the public statement made by a high-ranking police officer, specifically an Interpol agent, affect the honor of the entire National Chamber of Representatives because they link legislators to such a questionable and disreputable activity as drug trafficking. Since then, several motions have been made to reject those charges as groundless.

This is the state of affairs right now. On a motion introduced by Representative (Gil Barragan Romero), seconded by Rep. Wilfredo Lucero of Popular Democracy, Minister Alvarez has been summoned to appear before the Legislature on Wednesday afternoon at 1700 to clarify the statements made by that high-ranking police officer. At that same time, a commission will be set up and charged with investigating the allegations.

BRIEFS

MILITARY CONCLAVE ENDS -- The 24th Conference of Commanders in Chief of American Air Forces adjourned yesterday in Quito. The delegates had met in a plenary session to vote on resolutions and actions to be implemented by the committees during 1984-1985. The presidency of the conference was transferred to Peru, which will host it in 1985. [Summary] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 May 84 PA]

BELAUNDE WANTS ANDEAN COUNTRIES TO HELP BOLIVIA

PY241732 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 24 May 84

[Excerpt] President Fernando Belaunde Terry last night proposed a meeting of the finance and economy ministers of the Andean countries to help Bolivia pull out of its present crisis. Belaunde made these remarks when dedicating the first hall of services for exports organized by the Funds for Exports of Nontraditional Products.

[Begin Belaunde recording] I want to emphasize Peru's real desire to help Bolivia in its effort to pull out of its present crisis. This is something of continental importance. The government of President Siles Zuazo, who is an outstanding statesman, whose moral and intellectual capacity we all admire, is making a tremendous effort to pull his country out of a very difficult economic situation, aggravated by Bolivia's geographical position [words indistinct]. This is a question of Andean brotherhood and friendship, and we must put emphasis on all the support we can give to our brotherly nation of Bolivia. [end recording]

The Peruvian president also called Economy Minister Jose Benevides Munoz' activities with U.S. credit organizations in the United States excellent.

BELAUNDE SUPPORTS L.A. ECONOMY MINISTERS MEETING

PY241427 Lima Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0515 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] President Belaunde has stressed that Peru decidedly supports the step that has been taken by the chiefs of state who proposed a special meeting of economy ministers in order to seek effective solutions to the credit and financial problems of Latin America. Moreover, he also indicated that the Peruvian initiative in the OAS is similar to the proposal of the four chiefs of state who are seeking the same goal with an advance conference that will involve only Latin America.

TERRORISTS, ARMY CLASH IN AYACUCHO DEPARTMENT

26 Shining Path Killed

PY232130 Paris AFP in Spanish 1511 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Lima, 23 May (AFP) -- Twenty six terrorists and four civilians died, and four marines were injured in the wake of two confrontations which have taken place in Ayacucho, 575 km southeast of Lima, the Peruvian police reported today here in the capital.

In the town of Coscoga, La Mar Province of Ayacucho Department, a heavily armed column of Shining Path members tried to get the people to cooperate with them last Friday but, upon offering resistance, four persons were killed, the police reported.

Immediately afterward a patrol of the security forces supported by helicopters attacked the column of subversives, killing 26 of them, again according to police reports.

In another development, a transport vehicle carrying an officer and 10 marines was set upon by the Shining Path guerrillas in the locality of Quiscapata, somewhere between Huanta and Ayacucho. Two marines were wounded and were hospitalized in Ayacucho. This was also reported by the police, without providing more details.

Report Shows 120 Dead

PY242159 Paris AFP in Spanish 0151 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Military sources in Ayacucho today reported that some 120 guerrillas and civilians have died in a broad antisubversive operation carried out by the forces of order in the northeast area of Ayacucho [Department].

This operation, which took place in the forest and jungle area in La Mar Province, a province which borders on the Cuzco and Apurimac Departments, started on 27 April.

The clashes which recently took place in the towns of Ancco and Coscosa were part of the operation against the guerrillas of the Maoist group Shining Path, the abovementioned sources reported.

In Coscosa, the clashes taking place on 18 May resulted in a death toll of 26. Nonetheless, the Military Command of the emergency zone today denied reports published in Lima which stated that armed helicopters had machinegunned Coscosa.

On the other hand, it was learned in Ayacucho today that the Catholic mission in Cutibereni, which is located in the jungle area northwest of Ayacucho, was attacked the past Friday by armed individuals. This mission was again attacked last night but no information on the outcome of the attack is available since the radio broadcast by two priests was interrupted.

RAPELA DISCUSSES NEGOTIATIONS, PLEBISCITE

PY241830 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] All the points contained in the proposal made by the military are negotiable provided that better solutions can be found, Interior Minister General Julio Cesar Rapela has stated. On the other hand, Gen Rapela said that once an agreement is struck with the politicians, the proscriptions that have been imposed on certain factions of the Broad Front, except for the Communist Party, will be lifted.

Gen Rapela voiced his opposition to an amnesty and confirmed that Wilson Ferreira Aldunate will be detained and tried when he returns to Uruguay.

Gen Rapela installed the new municipal intendant of Treinta y Tres, Silveira Zuloaga. After the ceremony, Gen Rapela was questioned by journalists on the stand adopted by the interparty group concerning the steps that the government should take to achieve peace and freedom. Gen Rapela said:

[Begin recording] [Rapela] We fully agree on that and we have already said so in the private talks that have been held. We said that provided that we reach an agreement all those measures will be adopted but [passage indistinct].

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Rapela] Well, I would not say that things will be exactly so. Therefore, I am telling you that the statement does not lead to the conclusion you are drawing.

[Reporter] But, Mr Minister, it is indeed being said that [word indistinct] the constitutional amendment that is wanted along with the November elections. What do you think about this?

[Rapela] Well, should there by any amendment, it should be done together with, with...

[Reporter, interrupting] ...with the national elections.

[Rapela] Well, yes, also that. All these are conclusions that you are drawing. What I must say is the following: The purpose of the Armed Forces, within the set timetable, was to lay the grounds for the amendment last year, that is, in 1983, and (expand?) them in April or May, as you know, in a (?different) year, that is, this year. This could not be achieved. Now, at this time, how can we overcome the plebiscite problem? Well, the negotiations will not tell you how this will be done. To hold a plebiscite prior to the elections would mean a delay for the elections besides the high cost incurred by doing so. To hold the plebiscite simultaneously with the elections? Well, this is something that must be looked into. The way that this may be achieved must be analyzed. We talked, at a given time, about a tacit plebiscite. This could be one of the ways. But anyway, all this will be cleared up during the talks.

[Reporter] If, after these negotiations, which could eventually be resumed now as decided by the multiparty, group no conclusive agreement is reached, what would happen when with the national elections?

[Rapela] Look, let us suppose that we reach an agreement because the country needs it and we all are convinced that this must be so. We have said that the elections require a previous agreement. That is all I can tell you.

[Reporter] General, what is the next step for the political negotiations?

[Rapela] Well, I understand that the parties must take a stand and then they are to establish a contact, as is appropriate, because at this time it is up to them to do so.

[Reporter] General, I beg your pardon, some of the points have already been raised by the Armed Forces. It is being said that some points are subject to negotiation while others are not. In a nutshell, which are the points that are not negotiable for the Armed Forces?

[Rapela] Look, I cannot elaborate on what is and what is not negotiable. I understand that everything is subject to negotiations provided that superior, better solutions are found because, as I have said today, nobody knows everything. We, or better said, the Armed Forces have stated their goals, or what the goals should be, as they understand it. If there are better solutions...well then, they will be adopted. Now, there are things which we obviously understand are indispensable. These refer to state security, to national security; namely, some methods for fighting subversion, the COSENA [National Security Council] issue, the military justice issue. There are many things, but this does not mean that all things will be final, that is, there could be better solutions.

[Reporter] That is, they only refer to the military, the ones that only refer to the Armed Forces?

[Rapela] Well, we are interested in all of them, all of them. What happens is that, obviously, we are pretty sure of those that we have a handle on, right?

[Reporter] General, returning to the institutional act [approved] today, does this mean that that large number of signatures collected by the National [Blanco] Party which were to be presented to the Council of State will not be received by the latter?

[Rapela] No way, there is no point in it. Right?

[Reporter] Either by the executive branch, since you just said that that was a right of the executive branch...

[Rapela, interrupting] Once such a mechanism is denied, it becomes pointless.

[Reporter] Gen Rapela, after this stand, won't the executive branch put up another obstacle, from a political viewpoint, to a democratic solution?

[Rapela] Look, when somebody wants to place obstacles, these are placed. This is something that we have already stated. Therefore, this is just another clarification of what we have said before.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, what is the government's opinion with regard to the amnesty that is being talked about in certain sectors?

[Rapela] Well, we oppose an amnesty as we [word indistinct]. We do not understand how an unrestricted amnesty can be discussed. If a delinquent commits a crime and serves his sentence, well then, in this case, which also occurs, they are not political delinquents, that is, they are not in prison for political reasons, they are in prison for having committed murders, kidnappings, and holdups. They must all serve their sentences, as is fair. [end recording]

That was Interior Minister General Julio Cesar Rapela speaking to Radio Carve.

GOVERNMENT BANS BLANCO-SPONSORED PLEBISCITE

PY241155 Paris AFP in Spanish 1750 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Montevideo, 23 May (AFP) -- The Uruguayan Government today prohibited the Blanco Party from organizing a plebiscite designed to repeal all those institutional acts which are still in force, to lift restrictions affecting both individuals and parties, and to grant a broad amnesty. The respective decree, which bears no 15, based the decision on the fact that a plebiscite is uncalled for in the institutionalization process. The decree also stated that it is the executive branch which is entitled to call plebiscites.

Two weeks ago the Blanco Party started a campaign designed to collect signatures of people in favor of a referendum. The petition, with a minimum of 200,000 signatures, was to be submitted to the electoral court next Thursday, in keeping with the provisions of the 1967 Constitution. Thus far the campaign organizers have been able to obtain 600,000 signatures.

Military spokesmen said a few days ago that the plebiscite proposal was inapplicable and described it as an alleged destabilization plan that would culminate in strikes and stoppages.

When Hector Lorenzo Rios, a Blanco Party politician and member of its executive board, heard the news, he said that this decree is a fraud, a violent attack on the citizen's inalienable, exclusive rights. He said: The decree claims that peace and order must be preserved. I say that peace and order cannot be preserved with the systematic repression of legal rights. According to Rios, peace and order can be preserved through freedom, democracy, and social justice. Yet these values have been totally neglected by the military government. The Blanco Party is one of the most radical on the Uruguayan political scene. Their main leader, Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, is proscribed and wanted by the military courts.

Party Calls Urgent Session

PY242205 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 May 84

[Excerpts] The National Party has been prohibited from presenting the petitions [for a plebiscite] to the State Council. Montevideo Police Chief Colonel Raul Mermot summoned the National Party's political leaders to his office to inform them about the resolution that has been released by the Interior Ministry.

The board of directors of the National Party called an urgent session this afternoon at 1430 [1730 GMT] to decide what steps will be taken. Javier (Lascharca) now reports from Lamas House through mobile unit two. He has a review of the events.

[Begin (Lascharca) relay] Since early this morning we have been covering events directly from police headquarters, where the president of the board of directors, Professor Juan Miguel Devoto, Dr Gonzalo Aguirre, and the president of the National Party convention, Dr. Guillermo Garcia Acosta, were summoned to testify. We consulted with the president of the National Party convention, Guillermo Garcia Acosta, who reviewed the events:

[Begin Garcia recording] The police chief informed us that the president of the State Council, Dr Hamlet Reyes, will receive our board of directors at any time we desire, so it has been agreed that our board of directors will be received today at 1500. [end recording] [end relay]

HUNDREDS TRAVEL TO BORDER TO MEET FERREIRA

PY250232 Paris AFP in Spanish 0116 GMT 25 May 84

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 24 May (AFP) -- It was learned today in Montevideo that hundreds of members of the centrist National Blanco Party of Uruguay started today for the Uruguay River area to meet tomorrow, Friday, with proscribed Blanco leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate in the City of Concordia, in Argentina.

Blanco Party sources said that several buses carrying journalists and Ferreira Alundate's faithful left this morning for Salto, which is located 500 km northwest of Montevideo and near Concordia on the eastern bank of the Uruguay River. The sources added that a large number of cars drove or will be driving to that area over the next few hours, an area on which the country's political attention will be focused tomorrow.

According to some Blanco Party leaders, Ferreira Aldunate -- who was invited by the Entre Rios Province governor to participate in the ceremonies marking the May revolution -- will make a speech in Concordia in which he will reveal the date of his return to Uruguay, after 11 years of banishment.

ARMY OFFICERS COURT-MARTIALED IN ROSLIK CASE

PY250240 Paris AFP in Spanish 1205 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Montevideo, 24 May (AFP) -- The weekly OPINAR today revealed that a major and a lieutenant colonel of the Uruguayan Army have reportedly been court-martialed for their alleged participation in the death last month of Doctor Vladimir Roslik in a military garrison outside Montevideo. According to the Colorado Party weekly, the officers were accused of manslaughter and negligence.

This information was not confirmed by military sources, but it was learned that two officers in charge of a battalion in Fray Bentos, 300 km northwest of Montevideo, were relieved from their posts.

Vladimir Roslik, 42 years of age, [as received] was arrested last month in San Javier near Fray Bentos during an antisubversive operation. According to an official report, the doctor died from hear failure hours later. Three autopsies were carred out on the doctor's body and two of them did not establish any signs of violence. However, a few days ago Manuel Flores Mora, member of the Colorado Party and the Uruguayan Human Rights Commission, said in a weekly that Roslik died from torture he sustained during his detention. Flores Mora said that the autopsy which was not disclosed indicated that the doctor died from the lesions he suffered.

BETANCUR SENDS ILLUECA LETTER ON ELECTIONS

PA241805 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 May 84

[Letter addressed to Panamanian President Jorge Illueca by Colombian President Belisario Betancur; date not given]

[Text] The official proclamation of Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta as the new president of your country is the culmination of an electoral process marked by a tough competition which showed the Panamanian people's willingness to participate in the elections democratically because they were present, with their vote, in the making of a decision about their future.

The explainable tensions of the past few days made evident your willingness to mediate and your proven ability for a dialogue, the only paths, at these moments, to fully return to normalcy. We firmly hope that the Panamanian people will thus find their path in history.

Best wishes, your friend,
Belisario Betancur

ARDITO DISCUSSES COUNTRY'S, C.A.'S PROBLEMS

PM240937 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 21 May 84 p 6

[Interview with President-elect Nicolas Ardito Barletta by Antonio Cano -- date and place not given]

[Text] Question: With what instruments will your government struggle for peace in Central America?

Answer: We will continue the efforts at mediation and in pursuit of peace by the group of countries united around Contadora. It is a difficult and complex path, but it is necessary to persevere.

Question: What is your opinion of the situation in Nicaragua?

Answer: The essential thing at this moment is to see whether ways can be found to enable Nicaragua to be pluralist and truly democratic and to respect human rights and promote its people's development, but within an opening to freedoms, dialogue [words missing in newspaper] of the press, is in most democracies in the world and in Latin America. Of course, our principle is to respect other peoples' right to govern their own courses and causes, but many of us have the impression that what suits Nicaragua itself best is that kind of democratic, pluralist, and free change.

Question: General Torrijos played an essential role in Anastasio Somoza's fall in Nicaragua. What is your opinion of that stance now, from the perspective afforded by the years which have passed?

Answer: At that moment, when I was not in Panama or a government official, the countries of this region were greatly concerned about the kind of government represented by General Somoza. Everyone shared the belief of the great majority of the people of Nicaragua that there should be change. In my opinion, it would have been preferable if that change had occurred through democratic methods, with fair elections, but it occurred by revolutionary means.

I believe that the support given at that moment, when I was not in Panama, by Gen Torrijos was aimed, as far as I know, at a constructive change, and I have the impression that at the time of his death Gen Torrijos himself was extremely concerned about what he was witnessing in the course of Nicaragua's revolutionary government, which was very different from what he believed.

Question: What is your opinion of the U.S. support for the counterrevolutionary group fighting against the Nicaraguan Government?

Answer: What must be sought is for all influence from outside Central America, from whatever source, to cease; it is an influence that is promoting violence as a vehicle for a solution. The essential thing is to find a way to enable the Central American people to settle their differences peacefully.

"Work on Equal Terms"

Question: What role do you believe the United States could play in Latin America?

Answer: Relations between the United States and Latin America should always remain on a level of mutual respect and of support and cooperation. There have been policies of the U.S. Government, such as the Alliance for Progress, and even recent policies, such as the Caribbean Basin Initiative and the recommendations of the commission chaired by Mr Kissinger, as regards Latin America's economic and social development, which seem very positive because they identify with the national interests of the countries of Latin America. I believe that in Latin America we are not in a situation for leaderships but in a situation of working with mutual respect, on equal terms. I believe that U.S. cooperation with Latin America is a relationship with a lengthy history; we are on the same continent, we share democratic principles, of human rights, and, the United States being the power which it is, we must always struggle on both sides to ensure that these meetings are constructive and harmonious. [sentence as published]

Question: Do you have plans to reduce the U.S. military presence in Panama?

Answer: The agreements governing the presence of U.S. military bases in Panama are contained in the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, which are valid until the end of the century, and the essential thing is respect for the spirit and letter of the treaties.

"Different Dialogue With United States"

Question: Does your accession to the presidency in any way mean breaking with Gen Torrijos' foreign policy?

Answer: It is necessary to know how to correctly interpret Gen Torrijos' foreign policy. It had a certain style while we were engaged in the negotiations with the United States, with the aim of achieving recognition for Panama. Once the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, which place Panama and the United States on equal terms, were consolidated, that meant, even in Gen Torrijos' lifetime, a new attitude and a different dialogue with the United States. Over the last few years, Panama has maintained a policy of considerable dialogue with all areas of the world, frequently identifying with the developing world's causes but bearing in mind that Panama's relations with the United States, Europe, and Japan, as well as with Latin America, are essential for the development of Panama's national interests, which has to do with the use of its geographical position as a transit center and center of international trade.

Question: What will be your government's most urgent aims regarding Panama's domestic situation?

Answer: The government must maintain national stability, balance, the reconciliation of the country's various political forces, the search as far as possible for a consensus on national aims.

Question: Is there a danger of confrontation among Panamanians?

Answer: That possibility exists. If people cannot accept that there are groups with different aims, circumstances could easily arise which may not maintain stability and balance.

SDAR PRESIDENT CONGRATULATES ARDITO BARLETTA

PA242222 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 23 May 84 p 2

[Telegram sent by Mohammed Abdelaziz, president of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, SDAR, and secretary general of the Polisario, to Panamanian President-elect Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta; date and place not given]

[Text] On behalf of the people of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, its political directorate, and myself, it is a great honor for me to send you our warmest and most sincere congratulations for the confidence that the friendly Panamanian people have placed in Your Excellency by electing you president of the Republic of Panama. We are convinced that through you the ties of friendship and solidarity already existing between the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and the Republic of Panama will become deeper and broader.

May Your Excellency receive my warmest and most sincere wishes for your success and happiness.

Mohammed Abdelaziz, President of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and Secretary General of the Polisario Front

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL ALTERNATE MAGISTRATE RESIGNS

PA242355 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 May 84 p 1A

[Letter of resignation from Roberto Reyna Rodriguez, alternate magistrate of the Electoral Tribunal, to Panamanian President Jorge Illueca, dated 23 May]

[Excerpts] Mr President: By this means I present to you my irrevocable resignation as alternate magistrate of the Electoral Tribunal, a post I have held since 27 September 1982 and to which I was appointed by your predecessor on the honorable recommendation of a group of opposition parties, none of which am I member.

I have made this decision because I do not wish to have any ties with a body such as the Electoral Tribunal, which due to its inept and biased participation in the 6 May elections and the events prior to and subsequent to them has defrauded people who naively believed in its institutional responsibility after 16 years of humiliation during which they were kept outside of democratic life, whose essence is the popular vote, freely cast and honestly counted.

For the average citizen who does not understand legal subterfuge the Electoral Tribunal has acted exactly like an accomplice bank teller who despite the warning from a witness agrees to "count" and receive in his window a deposit of counterfeit bills with the excuse that the witness did not warn him in writing and on stamped paper.

Yours truly, Roberto Reyna Rodriguez

PDC YOUTHS LEAVE UN OFFICE AFTER 16 HOURS

PA241710 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1618 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Panama City, 24 May (ACAN-EFE) -- A group of Christian Democratic Party Youths left the UN office in Panama City peacefully this morning after occupying it for 16 hours.

The youths occupied the UN installation to ask for "democratic countries' firm support in rejecting the presidency of those attempting to establish a government that will be malleable and servile to the military elite."

Moises Bartlett, secretary general of the Christian Democratic Youth, said that early today some 20 members of the Panama Defense Forces entered the UN office to "demand that they leave the premises."

However, Bartlett added, Carlos del Castillo, the Uruguayan UN ambassador to Panama, asked the police to leave because it was a peaceful protest.

Carlos del Castillo refused to speak to the press.

The Christian Democratic Youth are asking Del Castillo to send a communique to the UN in New York asking that "current Panamanian President Jorge Illueca be dismissed" for "sponsoring electoral fraud that opposes the peoples' right to elect their leaders freely and democratically."

On 6 May, Panama held its first presidential elections since 1968. Nicolas Ardito Barletta was elected after defeating his main opponent Arnulfo Arias Madrid by a slim margin of 1,713 votes.

DEFENSE FORCES CAPTURE 23 COLOMBIANS IN RAID

PA241405 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] The men who were in charge of installing a cocaine laboratory complex have been arrested. A total of 23 Colombians aged 28 to 35, including a 46-year-old woman who worked as cook, were captured during a raid by National Defense Forces.

National Defense Forces Captain Guillermo Marcos Cigarrista, Captain Francisco Alvarez, and Major Teodoro Alexander reported that Otto Alvaro Cabrera Molina and Guillermo Rios Herrera were captured yesterday afternoon in the Sambu zone, Chepigana District, Darien Province. They gave information that lead to the arrest of the other members of the laboratory complex. The other 21, captured at noon today in upper part of Quebrada El Cocal, did not put up any resistance.

The 23 members of the laboratory complex, who had been in the zone for approximately 20 to 25 days, escaped Saturday when the National Defense Forces launched a land, sea, and air operation under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Elias Castillo, with the support of Lieutenant Colonel Rogelio Alba, chief of the 9th Military Zone.

It should be noted that the operation was carried out with the cooperation of the people of Darien Province and the Colombian intelligence authorities, who gave information to the Panamanian National Defense Forces.

The prisoners, flown to Panama City in a Panamanian Air Force aircraft, have been placed in the custody of the Defense Forces which will turn them over to the civilian authorities.

CONSTITUTIONAL ARTICLE GUARANTEES SAFETY

PA242010 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 24 May 84 pp 40, 24

[Communique issued by Government and Justice Minister Rodolfo Chiari de Leon, in Panama City, on 23 May]

[Text] The Government and Justice Minister wishes to announce that Article 17 of the National Constitution will be fulfilled to the letter, as it represents a basic and primordial obligation of the de jure state.

Article 17 states:

"The authorities of the Republic have been instituted to protect the lives, honor, and property of its national people wherever they may be and the foreigners under its jurisdiction; to ensure the effectiveness of individual and social rights and duties; and to fulfill and enforce the Constitution and the law."

All citizens must help make this constitutional article a perfect reality by observing legal norms and good habits with respect, in order to guarantee the public order and the tranquillity of the citizens.

The Government and Justice Minister has referred to this situation in view of the fact that several individuals have publicly informed the minister of their concern over the personal integrity of several Panamanian political figures.

Rodolfo Chiari de Leon
Minister

DEPUTY COMMERCE MINISTER DISCUSSES OIL PRICES

PA240420 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Rita Mariela Perez, deputy minister of commerce and industries, has assured us that Panama will not be affected by the price increase of Mexican crude oil.

[Begin recording] [Perez] The fact that Mexico has increased the price of its crude will not affect us, mainly because we buy our oil from Venezuela and Ecuador. We only buy a little oil from Mexico. So far, we have not heard anything about Venezuela planning to increase the price of its crude. As you know, Venezuela is a member of OPEC, and in order to increase the price of its crude it must have the approval of the other members of OPEC, to coordinate their price policies.

[Unidentified reporter] What are the chances of Ecuador increasing the price of its crude.

[Perez] Ecuador is also a member of OPEC. We do not have an official report on Ecuador planning to increase its prices. There is nothing to worry about for the time being. [end recording]

EL SALVADOR

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES U.S. VISIT, CONTADORA

PA242224 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena told YSU today that during his 4-day trip to the United States to accompany the Salvadoran president-elect, that northern country, through President Ronald Reagan, once again expressed its support for the efforts of the Contadora Group.

[Begin Chavez Mena recording] The United States has clearly expressed its support for the Contadora process. It considers that this initiative is important, and that it is an instrument that can effectively contribute to achieving peace and to establishing democracy, economic development, and social justice in Central America. President Reagan was emphatic and very clear in his support for the Contadora process, and we hope that in this second phase of work, which will begin approximately in July, the process will continue successfully.

I would say that the Contadora process has been divided into three phases: The first was to draft the rules for the way in which we would debate the Central American crisis and the region's problems. The second phase was to prepare the topics to be discussed, and in my opinion this phase ended with the drafting of the Document of Objectives and the presentation of the work done by the commissions. We can therefore describe the first phase as the procedural phase and the second as the diagnostic phase, with the establishment of the frame of reference for the Document of Objectives. The third phase, I understand, will -- once we have all the information supplied by the commissions -- begin a phase of negotiations. [end recording]

During the same interview Foreign Minister Chavez Mena said that the "Grenadier I" maneuvers being held in the Gulf of Fonseca, in which the Armed Forces of the United States, Honduras, and El Salvador are participating, do not represent opposition to the efforts of the Contadora Group formed by Panama, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela.

[Begin Chavez Mena recording] The maneuvers are just what the word states: maneuvers, exercises. They do not represent offensive actions, nor do they increase the tension or the crisis. [end recording]

The foreign minister briefly summarized Salvadoran President-elect Jose Napoleon Duarte's trip to the United States.

[Begin Chavez Mena recording] It was an excellent trip. It received wide coverage and very decided support from all political and public sectors. The meetings held at the White House were very positive and fruitful; they were frank and open meetings. We discussed the problem of the need for good and solid economic assistance and the efforts being made to establish and strengthen the democratic process in our country and in Central America. As I said previously, we also talked about the Contadora Group. At the meetings with the State Department, we discussed basically the same subjects, and during a meeting at the Department of Defense we presented a broad explanation of the situation. I, who have been there on several occasions, can describe Tuesday's meeting with the U.S. Congress as a very successful one. [end recording]

GUARDSMEN FOUND GUILTY OF CHURCHWOMEN'S MURDER

PA251230 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1133 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] San Salvador, 24 May (ACAN-EFE) -- After 19 hours of uninterrupted debate, a civilian jury has found five former National Guardsmen guilty of the killing of four U.S. churchwomen on 2 December 1980. The defendants were also found guilty of stealing and destroying property of the archbishop of San Salvador, the owner of the vehicle in which the churchwomen were traveling the night of the crime and of the objects that the murderers stole.

"Everything was very clear," said Rosario Zuniga, a member of the jury who read the verdict at 0400 local time (1000 GMT). The decision was made unanimously by the five members of the "court of conscience" (jury).

The trial was held in the City of Zacatecoluca, 56 km southeast of San Salvador, because the quadruple murder took place in its penal jurisdiction.

Judge Bernardo Rauda Urcia will have to announce the sentences that will be imposed on the five former guardsmen in the next few days. The crime of homicide is punishable with a maximum of 30 years in prison, robbery with 15, and aggravated damage with 10. The defense can appeal the sentence, but not the verdict, at the Third Court of the City of San Vicente, the most important in the country's central region. Once the verdict had been announced, the five members of the jury withdrew from the room under special protection. For the next 2 weeks, U.S. police agents will be charged with their security, for fear of reprisals.

Ita Ford, Maura Clarke, Dorothy Kazel, and Jean Donovan were killed near the town of Rosario de la Paz. The five defendants who have now been found guilty -- Luis Colindres, Jose Moreno, Carlos Contreras, Daniel Canales, and Francisco Contreras -- were detained on 29 April 1981.

In their presentations, the three prosecutors stressed the testimony given by several eyewitnesses, who saw the defendants take the nuns away on the night of the crime, and after the act, saw them with some of the objects that the churchwomen had been carrying. In addition, ballistic evidence was presented to show that the weapons used to commit the crimes belonged to the former guardsmen. They also backed their accusation with the confession of Carlos Contreras, one of the defendants.

For their part, the appointed defense lawyers of four of the five former guardsmen claimed that their defendants had acted under the orders of Sergeant Luis Colindres. However, the Salvadoran penal code accepts disobedience when an order calls for carrying out "punishable actions."

Venceremos on Trial

PA240450 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] (?At the time) the U.S. churchwomen were murdered the director of the sinister National Guard was none other than General Vides Casanova. The National Guardsmen who carried out the crime were simply carrying out orders; they simply carried out the policy of repression, [word indistinct], torture, and murder that was planned, directed, and carried out on the orders and with the full awareness of Gen Eugenio Vides Casanova.

The five poor National Guardsmen who are today paying for one of the thousands of crimes committed by the National Guard are scapegoats. Those responsible for the crime are trying to wash their hands with these five men. Vides Casanova's National Guard as well as Lopez Nuila's National Police have committed thousands of crimes that have brought world repudiation and condemnation for the Salvadoran dictatorship that today is attempting to restore its image by trying the five National Guardsmen as if by doing this they will pay for the many crimes they have committed. If it were justice that was being sought, then we would have to try the high commanders who ordered the perpetration of the crime. We would have to try Gen Vides Casanova, Colonel Lopez Nuila, Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, and other Army high commanders and security corps murderers [word indistinct] responsible for the murder of the U.S. nuns and of more than 45,000 Salvadorans.

Like everything else in this country, the alleged government justice is carried out only when it benefits U.S. interests. At this moment when the puppet Duarte's prestige and U.S. military aid to the dictatorship are at stake in the United States, they are interested in trying and sentencing five poor National Guardsmen; but those who murdered Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero are not being tried, despite the fact that the U.S. Embassy has all the necessary proof needed to do this.

The trial of the five National Guardsmen is another farce of imperialism and its puppets of the dictatorship. The principal murderers will not be tried. The ranks of the National Guard and the Army should think about this. The National Guardsmen and the soldiers are ordered to kill, but when the time comes to pay for those crimes, the chiefs and generals who gave the orders are the ones who accused them of being murderers, and only the National Guardsmen and soldiers are arrested and tried. The chiefs and generals continue to enjoy their freedom and tranquillity. The murderers will not be tried until the day the FMLN triumphs and the people's justice falls on the murderers of the people. Only the FMLN's victory, only the victory of the working class, will bring justice to the real murderers of the people.

D'AUBUISSON TO RETURN TO ASSEMBLY, LEAD PARTY

PA242251 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 24 May 84 pp 3, 23

[Excerpts] "Yes, I will return to the Assembly. I am a deputy, and therefore I have my duties with that organization. We are going to organize the work of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, deputies, and we will also rearrange the party's affairs."

This statement was made to EL DIARIO DE HOY by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson at ARENA's offices at the Assembly when he was asked if he would once again occupy his seat as a deputy.

Maj D'Aubuisson said that his activities will be limited to his duties as a deputy and to the political direction of the party. He added that he was very pleased to be back in a place he remembers with much affection, where he acquired great experience when he acted as deputy until the time the Constitution was approved. "We will continue acquiring more of this kind of experience and giving our opinions in the discussion of the many problems debated here," D'Aubuisson said.

D'Aubuisson said that one of the party's main programs is to incorporate the youth into the movement to prepare it to participate in the country's political life, so they can acquire the experience the current leaders lacked to wage the campaign successfully.

TREASURY POLICE CHIEF ON ARMED FORCES' ROLE

PA232129 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 May 84

[Report by Osiris Ramirez]

[Excerpt] Colonel Nicolas Carranza, director general of the Treasury Police, has been asked what attitude the Armed Forces will maintain while the Christian Democratic Party is in power.

[Begin recording] [Carranza] The Armed Forces' position has already been stated by the defense minister as a member of the high command. It will continue to be the same attitude, to continue to defend and obey the Constitution, protect the national interests, defend the territorial integrity, etc. Our attitude in this regard will remain the same. Engineer Duarte has won; he is welcomed. If Major D'Aubuisson had won, our attitude would have been the same, to try to always remain outside politics and to enforce the country's Constitution.

[Ramirez] Isn't there fear that Jose Napoleon Duarte will take some drastic measure regarding the security forces, about which there has been so much talk?

[Carranza] I do not think so because if some drastic measure were planned, it would have to be done through investigations. I believe that if investigations were carried out they would just show our attitude of respect for human rights and of watching over the fulfillment of the Constitution. In addition, President-elect Duarte has said that he will respect the country's Constitution and laws, and the Armed Forces are governed by their own laws that outline their policies perfectly well. They have been acting in accordance with those laws. Therefore, I believe that the security forces have been acting in a clearly professional manner that cannot be affected by subjective considerations from any person. [end recording]

REBELS SAID FORCING EXODUS TO HONDURAS

PA232224 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 23 May 84 p 1

[Text] San Miguel -- The guerrillas operating in the area of Perquin and the cantons of Sabanetas and El Zancudo are forcing the residents of the area to go to Marcala, Honduras. The people who are violently forced out of their homes by those individuals are also deprived of their belongings.

The Honduran authorities recently took some 200 families to Goascoran and turned them over to the Salvadoran authorities, who transferred them to other cities. However, most of them went to San Miguel, where there are currently several hundred refugees.

The guerrillas are clearly causing a very serious problem.

A short while ago we learned that several of those forced out of their communities who have relatives in San Miguel are heading toward this city. They will thus increase the number of homeless people. As can be understood, this means more activity for the Red Cross, Green Cross, and other relief institutions that will have to help the large number of people. The central government's contribution is essential and necessary in this area.

COPREFA REPORTS VARIOUS CLASHES WITH REBELS

PA232331 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 May 84

[Report issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA: read by an unidentified COPREFA spokesman at the COPREFA offices -- live or recorded]

[Text] On 21 May at 1200, troops of the Arce Rapid Deployment Battalion surprised a column of heavily armed terrorists at Cerro El Tigre in Usulutan. In the clash with the troops, the terrorists suffered a large number of dead and wounded, who were taken away by their extremist companeros in their flight. The following weapons and materiel were confiscated: 7 Czechoslovak 7-mm rifles, 15.22-caliber rifles, 5 12-gauge shotguns, 3.30-caliber carbines, 1 AR-15 rifle, large amounts of ammunition for the various weapons, a mimeograph machine, and a large number of blank identification cards. The Armed Forces sustained no casualties.

Eight terrorists were killed and an undertermined number were wounded yesterday when an extremist column was surprised by soldiers of the 1st Infantry Brigade near Loma Chata, at (Los Lirios) Hill in the jurisdiction of San Jose Guayabal, in Cuscatlan Department. As a result of the fighting, 1 FAL rifle, a radio transmitter, and a large amount of ammunition were confiscated from the extremists. The Army suffered two dead and two wounded.

The Manuel Jose Arce Battalion clashed with terrorist squads near the village of Santa Catarina, in the jurisdiction of Lolotique, San Miguel Department. One extremist was killed and 1 M-16 rifle with ammunition was confiscated. In this action, the Army did not sustain any casualties.

VENCEREMOS: REBELS ATTACK ARMY POST NEAR CAPITAL

PA250344 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] According to a report from San Salvador, urban guerrilla commandos today, Thursday, attacked the Mejicanos local command at about 1200. Heavy fighting ensued that extended as far as Ayutuxtepeque, on the outskirts of San Salvador. Mejicanos and Ayutuxtepeque residents reported that the guerrilla commandos were young men in civilian clothes. Guerrilla activity in San Salvador has achieved momentum in the past few weeks and has extended to San Miguel, where yesterday, Wednesday, urban commandos destroyed the local oligarchic gambling house.

VENCEREMOS REPORTS RECAPTURE OF ESCAPED OFFICER

PA250137 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 25 May 84

[Communique issued by the General Command of the Salvadoran FMLN's Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front in Morazan on 24 May]

[Excerpts] The General Command of the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front reports: On the night of Tuesday, 22 May, Major Napoleon Medina Garay and two counterrevolutionaries escaped from the camp where they were being held prisoner. The prisoners escaped using the cover of night and the torrential rain that was falling at the time. Immediately after the prisoners' escape was discovered, an operation was carried out in Morazan Department. Many patrols were deployed to search intensely for the prisoners. On the morning of Wednesday, 23 May, one of the patrols involved in the search and pursuit of the prisoners recaptured Maj Napoleon Medina Garay.

The search operation continues to capture the other two counterrevolutionaries. One of them is Julio Argueta, involved in enemy actions against our front in Morazan Department. At this time, Maj Napoleon Medina Garay is in our hands under special detention conditions and under strict security measures. Maj Medina Garay, the butcher of El Junquillo, has been an FMLN prisoner since November 1983.

Maj Napoleon Medina Garay is one of the leaders of the Armed Forces' criminal groups that commit murders under the cover of the death squads. Maj Napoleon Medina Garay has been one of the principal military chiefs of the dictatorship and is held in high esteem by the U.S. military advisers and the U.S. Embassy in our country. Maj Napoleon Medina Garay, the butcher of El Junquillo, a prisoner of the FMLN, is paying and will continue to pay for his massive crimes against the people. Revolutionary justice punishes the high-ranking military chiefs and officers of the genocidal Army because they are the ones who cold-bloodedly plan and order the massive or selective murder of the Salvadoran people.

Meanwhile, the dictatorship is trying five National Guardsmen for the murder of four U.S. churchwomen, while the ones who are really guilty because they ordered the murders are free or in the government. Five National Guarsmen are going to pay for the thousands of crimes committed by the Army and the security forces to save the image of the high-ranking military chiefs and the Duarte government. The dictatorship's justice has been sold out to U.S. imperialism and the oligarchs. Jose Napoleon Duarte, begging for more military aid in the U.S. Congress, has asked that no conditions be imposed -- including those dealing with human rights -- in the granting of the military aid that he is desperately requesting. Duarte asked Congress not to demand that his government promise to respect human rights because he knows that his government is going to be stained with blood. Jose Napoleon Duarte knows that he does not have the power or the capacity to stop the Army's criminal policy against the Salvadoran people. The Duarte government's justice has been sold out to U.S. imperialism and the oligarchic millionaires. Only the revolutionary victory will impart real justice for the crimes committed against the people.

Revolution or death, we shall win!

UNGO WANTS NEGOTIATION WITHOUT 'AMBIGUITY'

PA241419 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1325 GMT 24 May 84

[By Sixto Martinez]

[Text] Panama City, 23 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Salvadoran guerrillas are willing to negotiate with the government, but believe that the stand of President-elect Jose Napoleon Duarte is "ambiguous," one of its political spokesmen told ACAN-EFE today. According to FDR President Guillermo Ungo, "we are still determined to hold a dialogue, and we will test Duarte once he takes office to define the various parties' political determination to resolve the conflict."

According to the leader of the FDR, a member of the FMLN, the leading Salvadoran guerrilla organization, "a semblance of dialogue is what we reject." According to Ungo, the statement by Duarte, who was proclaimed president-elect on 11 May, that he will not accept "a dialogue with rifles on the table" is "ambiguous" and "serves the current levels of U.S. interference" in that Central American country. Duarte, a member of the Christian Democratic Party, will take office on 1 June.

"If we have to lay down our weapons, let them lay down theirs too," said Ungo, who stressed that in El Salvador, the government and the guerrillas represent parallel "powers." According to Ungo, the rebel groups that have been fighting the Salvadoran Government for the last 4 years are proposing a "dialogue with open agenda and without conditions." "We are not optimistic. Both the government and the United States are intent on resolving the military problem," said Ungo, who leaves for Costa Rica today to hold talks with the Costa Rican Government. Last week, Duarte visited San Jose, Costa Rica, before traveling to the United States.

According to the FDR leader, "despite all the aid it receives, the Salvadoran Army is in no condition to defeat the guerrillas." Ungo added that since 1980, when the hostilities became general, El Salvador has received over $1 billion in U.S. aid. The government still regards this as "insufficient," and the economy is bankrupt.

Concerning the "Grenadier I" maneuvers that Honduran, Salvadoran, and U.S. troops have just begun staging in Honduras, the rebel leader indicated that for the guerrillas they exhibit the triple nature of "threat, preparation for a direct intervention, and containment at the rearguard." "Grenadier I," the largest-scale antiguerrilla maneuvers staged so far in Central America, are being staged in Honduras, in a border zone located close to the Salvadoran guerrilla redoubts. However, Ungo asserted that "it would be difficult to stage a direct U.S. intervention in the next few months." He also said that "the guerrillas' actions may be stepped up soon," but he dismissed the possibility that "an attempt to seize power by military means" is being prepared.

VENCEREMOS NOTES 'GRENADIER I' POSTPONEMENT

PA250359 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] According to reports from Honduras, the "Grenadier I" joint exercises slated to begin yesterday, Wednesday, in Honduras have been postponed until an unspecified date. The information added that the special Atonal Battalion of the Salvadoran puppet army, which will participate in the exercises, entered Honduran territory today, Thursday. As has been announced, the "Grenadier I" exercises, in which Salvadoran, Honduran, and U.S. troops will participate, will be carried out at a place close to the Salvadoran border.

REBEL RADIOS ANNOUNCE SIMULTANEOUS TRANSMISSION

Venceremos Gives Schedule

PA231948 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 20 May 84

[Text] Radio Farabundo Marti and Radio Venceremos are transmitting on the 41-meter band, evading the imperialist jamming together. Radio Venceremos and Radio Farabundo Marti transmit their rebel signals simultaneously from 0615 and 0630 in the morning. We also transmit simultaneously at noon, beginning at 1230, and in the evenings we transmit continuously with different schedules, as follows: at 1800, Radio Venceremos; at 1900, Radio Farabundo Marti; and at 2030, Radio Venceremos: 3 and 1/2 hours of continuous revolutionary programming in the evenings. Radio Farabundo Marti and Radio Venceremos, struggling together against imperialism and the government that defends the oligarchy. We invite all of our people to scoff at the imperialist jamming by tuning in the signals of Radio Farabundo Marti and Radio Venceremos.

Farabundo Marti on Transmission

PA231951 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 22 May 84

[Text] To report on the struggles of our people and to fight against Yankee aggression and the dictatorship's policies, Radio Venceremos and Radio Farabundo Marti of the FMLN are transmitting their combat signals. They are on the air simultaneously at 0630; on the 40-meter band simultaneously at 1230 noon; and in the evenings Radio Venceremos transmits at 1800, Radio Farabundo Marti at 1900, and Radio Venceremos again at 2030, disseminating the truth and using the spoken word as weapons of the revolution.

Salvadoran people, Salvadoran workers: Listen to our revolutionary transmissions daily on frequencies close to 7 MHz on the 40-meter shortwave band; on the 80-meter band; and on FM. Let all of the people listen to our two combat signals in the midst of the dictatorship's misinformation and the Yankee imperialist aggression. United in combat, we will be united in victory!

GUATEMALA

PEACE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN WITHDRAWS RESIGNATION

PA242350 Guatemala Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 24 May 84

[Excerpt] San Carlos University Rector Eduardo Meyer tonight withdrew his resignation from the chairmanship of the Guatemalan Peace Commission. In addition to the central government, several institutions are represented in that commission. Peace Commission member Gonzalo Marti, who represents the Guatemalan Journalists Association, made the announcement after a meeting with Meyer at the Flavio Herrera Cultural House, in Guatemala City.

[Begin Marti recording] Tonight's meeting is still in session. At the beginning we discussed the resignation of San Carlos University Rector Eduardo Meyer. The commission decided that it could not accept his resignation because the commission is in its organization phase, and his support is very important. He agreed to continue at the head of the commission. Therefore, his resignation has been withdrawn. However, I would like to point out that Rector Meyer had submitted his resignation from the position of coordinator of the Commission. At no time did he consider resigning from the commission. [end recording]

URNG ACCUSES MEJIA REGIME OF REFUGEE ATTACK

PA240122 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 19 May 84 p 3

[Text] Mexico City, 18 May (ANSA) -- The Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, which includes Guatemala's four main rebel groups, has accused the government of General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores of wanting "to involve Mexico in Central America's political-military problem." In a communique, the URNG expressed its stance regarding the 30 April armed attack against the "El Chupadero" refugee camp in Chiapas, Mexico, and held the Guatemalan Army directly responsible for the attack. The URNG attributed the following intentions to the Guatemalan Army: "attempting to prevent the continued flow of refugees into Mexican territory, trying to eliminate one of the existing camps, and holding the patriotic forces responsible for the crime and the violation of Mexican sovereignty."

The URNG said it has received charges regarding the [Guatemalan Government's] "dual" foreign policy, in which diplomatic speech does not correspond to actual practice, in order to "disguise accomplished facts" through an apparent flexibility of diplomacy. The URNG asserted that the presence of Guatemalan refugees in Mexico is the direct result of the Guatemalan Government's attacks against the noncombatant civilian population. The Guatemalan rebels' official stance includes the condemnation of Gen Mejia regime's plan "to internationalize its genocidal policy." In addition, the URNG expresses "its respect for the sovereignty of the Mexican state" and reasserts its willingness to continue the revolution "until the final victory."

With this communique, the URNG clearly denies the Guatemalan Government's story that it was "subversives disguised as militarymen" who carried out the attack against "El Chupadero," during which six refugees were killed and mutilated, including a pregnant woman and a child.

URD DENOUNCES ABDUCTION, MURDER OF LEADER

PA250329 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The Democratic Revolutionary Union, URD, today denounced the murder of Guillermo Chiguichon, its secretary of peasant affairs. Following his abduction, Chiguichon's body was found yesterday in the (El Granizo) neighborhood in the seventh region. It showed signs of violence. URD member (Marco Antonio Castillo) demanded that the government probe this incident:

[Begin (Castillo) recording] We demand that the administration of General Humberto Mejia Victores carry out the appropriate investigations, but we also demand that he clarify all such violent incidents, which in this case affected a democratic revolutionary group. I believe that Gen Mejia has the material and human resources necessary to carry out these investigations and to put an end to this kind of incident, which increase suffering in our country. Companero Guillermo Chiguichon Yantuche had been helping us as a militant, and was already regarded as a leader of the working class. We vigorously condemn this incident that we believe could lead to an escalation that we do not wish to see. The murder of our companero was carried out [words indistinct] yesterday morning. He was removed from his working place and his body was found later approximately 200 meters from there. His body was in terrible condition. It showed wounds caused by a cutting device and (?10) bullet wounds, and his [word indistinct] was completely mutilated. This incident reflects the seriousness of the [word indistinct] system used by the people who are carrying out these barbaric actions. [end recording]

HONDURAS

COURT RULES NEGLIGENCE; U.S. SOLDIERS RELEASED

PA241910 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The U.S. soldiers whose car ran over a Honduran university student in front of the university campus have been released. As had been predicted, the court ruled negligence. Therefore, those involved were eligible for bail, and the two black soldiers were released. Here is a report by Jose Danilo Izaguirre Bonilla:

Listeners of Voz de Honduras: Ralph Johnson and Anthony Coy, the U.S. citizens who are part of the U.S. forces that are in Honduras, were released on bail yesterday. The two were arrested after their car ran over a university student near the university campus.

Reports indicate that the U.S. soldiers were released on bail after a ruling of negligence was issued. Because the crime allows for bail, they were not held for the customary 6-day questioning period accorded by the law for nonbailable crimes. The Americans obtained their freedom on bail after paying 960 lempiras. As is known, the two soldiers accidentally hurt engineering student Raimundo Padilla. The First Criminal Court of San Francisco Morazan issued a ruling of negligence in the case. This is Jose Danilo Izaguirre reporting for HRN.

ALLEGED NICARAGUAN SPY ARRESTED IN GUASAULE

PA240426 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 23 May 84 p 33

[Text] Choluteca, Choluteca Department -- The local police are holding a Honduran under arrest. He is allegedly a spy for the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] of Nicaragua. The man, identified as Jose Santos Osorio Rodriguez, was arrested at the border post of Guasaule, when he was trying to enter Honduras with false Nicaraguan documents and carrying some 170,000 cordovas.

The Honduran, who presented a Nicaraguan passport that identifies him as Jose Santos Cruz, said upon entering our national territory that he was fleeing from the EPS and had come to Honduras as a refugee. However, the police arrested him, and following investigations reported that the man is not a Nicaraguan citizen, but was born in Santa Lucia, Orocuina, Choluteca Department. The police linked him to crimes in Pespire that took place in 1982. According to police reports, Jose Santos Osorio led a group that attacked a family in Pespire in 1982. During this attack, the owners of the house attacked and one of the attackers were wounded. Only two of the attackers were captured.

The police turned the man over to the second criminal court of the first instance and charged him with spying for Nicaragua, based on evidence held by the local police. Osorio Rodriguez will also be tried for previous crimes committed in Pespire.

SALVADORAN DEFENSE MINISTER TO ATTEND GRADUATION

PA241715 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Salvadoran Denfese Minister General Eugenio Vides Casanova will come to Honduras today to preside over the graduation ceremony of a U.S.-trained Salvadoran infantry battalion. The General Bracamonte Battalion is the third Salvadoran military unit to complete training at the Regional Military Training and Security Center, CREMS, which is located on Honduras' Atlantic coast. Colonel Guillermo Thuman, general commander of the Honduran Army, will head the Honduran representation at the ceremony that will take place at the CREMS installations.

The CREMS operates under Honduran supervision, administration, and security, with financing by the U.S. Army, which maintains a staff of 160 Green Beret instructors there. The Salvadoran Arce and Atonal Battalions, each composed of 1,200 troops, preceded the battalion that will graduate today. This new graduation brings the number of Salvadoran troops who have received U.S. training to 1,600.

SECURITY CORPS BREAKS UP TERRORIST CELLS

PA240003 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 May 84

[Report by Jorge Diaz Castillo]

[Excerpts] With the arrest of Santos Rigoberto Arce Romero on 9 May, in Potrerillos, Juticalpa Municipality, Olancho Department, the Honduran state security corps has broken up several terrorist cells known as the Revolutionary People's Commands, which according to the police are formed by members of the Honduran Christian Democratic Party. The alleged terrorist Santos Rigoberto Arce Romero, alias Commander Roque, was accused by a Potrerillos woman of being a member of these commands, which are again being organized in Olancho. The women told the police that the commands were holding meetings at night which she thought were suspicious. Whatever their plans were, they could not carry them out because Arce Romero was arrested. When the Police G-2 learned what was happening, it raided the commands' headquarters, but it only arrested Arce Romero. Arce Romero was transferred to the police station in Tegucigalpa. The state security corps has reported the arrest of other alleged terrorists, who like Arce Romero were recruited to travel to Cuba, Nicaragua, and other countries to receive training in ways to destabilize the Honduran state. Today they will be presented at a news conference to be held at the FUSEP [Public Security Force] Public Relations Office in Tegucigalpa.

MISURA INDIANS REPORTEDLY LOOT VILLAGES

PA220426 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 21 May 84 p 3

[Excerpts] Yapuwas, Olancho Department -- Groups of Nicaraguan rebels, reportedly Misura Indians carrying carnets identifying them as refugees, have raided Olancho Department through the Patuca River sector to loot houses and steal anything they can find. The presence of "contras" in the zone was denounced by those living in the villages of Yapuwas, San Isidro de Wampu, and Wampusirpi, jurisdiction of the muncipality of Dulce Nombre de Culmi, Olancho Department. The community leader of Yapuwas, Concepcion Castillo, stated at the municipal offices of Dulce Nombre de Culmi that the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries -- who are heavily armed -- have terrorized the people living in those villages, because they are victims of their looting. According to reports, the rebels have threatened to kill anyone who reveals their crimes, adding that they have the national Army's approval to do this. As a result of this situation, the villagers have asked the Armed Forces to expel the "contras" from the sector of the Patuca River, "because our lives are in their hands, and all they have to do is cross the border to evade Honduran justice."

NICARAGUA

RADIO CITES NEW U.S. ENVOY'S REMARKS ON POLICY

PA241800 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Harry Bergold, the new U.S. ambassador to Nicaragua, arrived in Managua yesterday afternoon and made it evident that he likes to make himself accessible to the news media. The ambassador was accompanied by his wife. After reading a short statement on the work he plans to carry out in this country, Bergold agreed to answer questions from the local and international news media, although he was at times very brief in his answers. He avoided responding to questions on the warmongering policy of the Reagan administration in the Central American region, especially in Nicaragua.

Bergold has had a busy diplomatic career. He entered the U.S. foreign service in 1957. Bergold was the U.S. representative in Hungary from 1980 to the beginning of 1984, before he was appointed to Nicaragua.

Ambassador Bergold admitted yesterday that the Central American conflict is not a product of the East-West confrontation. Contrary to the focus that some U.S. Government sectors and Nicaraguan opposition parties have chosen to give to the problems of the region, Bergold said: I believe that the Central American issue is not a fundamental issue and that it is not related to the East-West confrontation. However, the U.S. diplomat added that almost every kind of political evolution anywhere in the world gets involved in that confrontation.

The ambassador was asked about his country's not accepting The Hague court's jurisdiction. He clearly avoided commenting on his country's participation in the mining of Nicaragua's ports, but at a suitable moment he said that the situation of aggression Nicaragua is enduring should be discussed and negotiated by the governments involved and that there is no reason for presenting it and discussing it at The Hague International Court of Justice. Bergold also expressed his support for the efforts of the Contadora Group and the elections to be held in Nicaragua in November.

CSE RESOLUTION ANNOUNCES ELECTORAL CALENDAR

PA250314 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0030 GMT 25 May 84

[Resolution issued by the Nicaraguan Supreme Electoral Council, CSE, in Managua on 21 May; read by CSE President Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren at a ceremony in the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua -- live]

[Text] Ordinary session No 4. At 1100 on 21 [as heard] May 1984 in Managua, the Nicaraguan CSE, made up of Companero Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren, who presides over it; CSE members Companeros Xavier Chamorro Cardenal and Amada Pineda; and Secretary Luis Manuel Perez, held a meeting to establish the electoral calendar for the 4 November 1984 elections in accordance with the powers granted to it by the corresponding law.

Whereas:

1. The National Assembly of Political Parties [ANPP] in a timely manner has acted on the CSE's request for consultation on the electoral calendar. In its reply, the ANPP expressed reasonable arguments for the modification of some of the dates included in the draft that was sent to it.

2. It is advisable that in order to make use of the broad possibilities that the law grants them, the political parties should have more time to decide on the form in which they will participate in the elections and to choose their candidates.

3. The ANPP has pointed out that 3 days could be an insufficient period for the registration of citizens.

4. Due to the constant and increasing aggression against Nicaragua that is directed and financed by the Reagan administration, the CSE is dutybound to adopt preventive measures in the vote-receiving boards in the war zones and nearby areas so as to guarantee an efficient electoral process and the security of the citizens, officials, and assistants of the electoral institutions and the inspectors of the political parties, for which reason it is necessary to undertake the registration of citizens on consecurive days.

5. The political parties, whose opinions were gathered by the ANPP, unanimously believe that the 2-month period is too short for the electoral campaign. However, at the same time one must take into account the imperative needs of defense and production, which would be negatively affected by an excessively long campaign.

Therefore, it decides to:

1. Approve the following electoral calendar for the 4 November 1984 elections:

A. At 0800 on 25 May 1984: Opening of the period of registration for presidential and vice presidential candidates and of representatives to the national assembly.

B. At 1730 on 25 July 1984: Close of the period for the political parties or alliances of political parties that fulfill the provisions of Articles 27 and 29 of the current Electoral Law to request the registration of candidates in accordance with Articles 51 and 52 of the Electoral Law.

C. On 27, 28, 29, and 30 July: The period for the registration of citizens in the vote-receiving board that corresponds to them in accordance with what is established in Chapter 10 of the Electoral Law. The CSE will permit the registration of citizens on any of the 6 days following 30 July in the vote-receiving boards where it believes there is justified cause.

D. 8 August 1984: Opening of the electoral campaign.

E. 31 October 1984: Close of the electoral campaign.

Once the session concluded, the minutes were drawn up, read, approved, and then signed by those attending: Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren, President, Amada Pineda, member; Xavier Chamorro Cardenal, member; Luis Manuel Perez, Secretary

PARTIES MAKE DEMANDS FOR ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION

Opposition Outlines Demands

PA250237 Paris AFP in Spanish 0153 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Managua, 24 May (AFP) -- Four Nicaraguan opposition parties today threatened to suspend their participation in the upcoming November elections and decided not to register candidates until "the Sandinist government guarantees a process that is authentically free and honest." The decision was adopted by the Social Christian Party, the Social Democratic Party, and the Constitutionalist Liberal Movement -- members of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board -- and the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua following a joint meeting.

In a document they released, these parties have demanded that the government answer "with specific facts" to a platform that includes, among other things, the lifting of the state of emergency, an end to press censorship, and "[words indistinct] violate human rights." They have also demanded a general amnesty, respect for the freedom of religion, the right to form unions and to mobilize [movilizacion], the separation of state and party, and the autonomy of the judicial branch.

Azucena Ferrey, leader of the Social Christian Party, said that the parties will not register their candidates until "the political environment demanded in the document is observed in practice." The four opposition forces warned the government that if no answers to their demands are received "the authorities of each of the parties will be forced to make a decision [words indistinct] attend the elections or not."

PLI on November Elections

PA230435 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] The Independent Liberal Party [PLI] has condemned electoral abstentionism and has demanded from the revolutionary government the establishment of minimum conditions to attend the electoral process to be held in November. The PLI national assembly's permanent commission released an unsigned document today demanding the end of the current state of emergency, amendments to the electoral law, changes to the electoral schedule, and a communications media law that, according to them, would guarantee the interests of freedom, well-being, and national peace. The PLI document also condemns all foreign intervention in our internal matters.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Electoral Council will announce tomorrow the new electoral schedule that will extend the electoral campaign from 2 to 3 months. They will also announce the registration period for presidential and vice presidential candidates.

COORDINATING BOARD SCORES GOVERNMENT 'MANEUVERS'

PA250031 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 19-20 May 84 pp 1, 8

[Text] We have received a copy of the following pronouncement:

The Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board hereby exposes before the Nicaraguan people and the international community the misleading and dangerous maneuvers that the Sandinist regime is using against democratic organizations and leaders. These organizations and leaders are being mentioned by third persons as supposed participants in a conspiracy or on destabilizing actions against the current government. The Sandinist government has persisted in these efforts with the aim of intimidating the democratic leaders and their organizations, while justifying repression, persecution, and imprisonment against those who dissent from the manner in which the revolutionary process is being conducted.

Today, having to make decisions on electoral matters, and confronted with various national problems, we note with concern the intensification of this practice of groundless accusations against democratic sectors. We denounce this new trick of the Sandinists and warn all Nicaraguans to be on the alert in view of this situation.

Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board

REPRESENTATIVES TO BORDER COMMISSION APPOINTED

PA240457 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction has appointed its two representatives to the commission of supervision and prevention which, backed by the Contadora Group, will try to prevent the heightening of tension on the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border.

The Nicaraguan Government delegation is composed of Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera and Guerrilla Commander Roberto Calderon, chief of staff of the Sandinist People's Army 1st Military Region. Meanwhile, Costa Rica has also appointed its representatives to the commission. They are Deputy Security Minister Johnny Campos and Deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Urbina. The commission will be installed next Saturday at a ceremony to be held in Penas Blancas.

STATE COUNCIL DELEGATION RETURNS FROM COSTA RICA

PA240329 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 May 84

[Excerpt] The State Council delegation that traveled to Costa Rica recently to deliver a declaration from the Nicaraguan parliament to the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly returned to Nicaragua today at 0800. In the document, the Nicaraguan State Council requested total support for the Contadora Group's peace efforts. The delegation was headed by Subcommander Rafael Solis Cerda. The other delegates were Angela Rosa Acevedo and (Ramon Romero).

[Begin Solis recording] We believe that the visit was very positive. As you will recall, our visit was decided on during our 16 May session, in which we agreed to issue a declaration that would be delivered personally to the highest representatives of the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly. We were received by Bernal Jimenez, president of the Legislative Assembly, and by the leaders of the various political parties represented in the Assembly. We met with them, explained the purpose of our trip, and briefed them on Nicaragua's political and military situation. [end recording]

BODY OF STATE COUNCIL MEMBER ARRIVES FROM HAVANA

PA242020 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The body of Carmen Moreno, who was the Sandinist Front's representative at the State Council, will arrive today at 0900 from Havana, Cuba. The coffin will be taken to the State Council building, where the members of the board of directors, representatives, and workers of the council will pay posthumous homage to the late companera. At 1400, homage will be paid at regional committee No 3 of the Sandinist Front. She will be buried tomorrow, Friday, at the Military Cemetery, in Managua. The lengthy combative record of Companera Moreno was outlined yesterday during the regular session of the State Council. When the representatives of the State Council were informed of her death, they held a minute of silence. All saw in her a sister who fought and made sacrifices.

LA PRENSA REJECTS ORDER TO PUBLISH LETTER

PA240400 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0143 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Managua, 23 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The board of directors of the Managua opposition newspaper LA PRENSA today reported that it will not obey an order of the Sandinist government to publish an explanatory letter addressed to the newspaper's deputy director, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios.

During a press conference to which foreign correspondents were invited, the board of directors argued that the newspaper "cannot accept the communications media directorate's giving instructions on how to run the newspaper. This refusal is based on principles." The communications media directorate of the Interior Ministry, the organization in charge of applying censorship, last Monday notified LA PRENSA that it had set a 48-hour deadline for the letter to be published. It has been reported that the explanatory letter was signed by the leaders of one of the two factions into which the Democratic Conservative Party, PCD, is divided. This party is represented by the State Council.

The board of directors said: "For more than 2 years we have let the communications media directorate daily remove the news items it wanted. But to let it decide what to include in the newspaper, and even where to insert it, would be tantamount to letting the communications media directorate run the newspaper." The board of directors stressed: "We cannot do that because we are an independent newspaper."

Asked whether the newspaper would appear tomorrow, Thursday, Deputy Director Chamorro Barrios indicated: "We will continue to publish the newspaper. Any decision as to the closing of the newspaper will have to be made by the government."

The nine members of the newspaper's board of directors asked for the solidarity of "all journalists of the world" before what they described as "slander" on the part of the government, from which "we cannot defend ourselves, because they censor our editorials." According to Chamorro Barrios, the government's slanders against the newspaper might have the purpose of trying "to justify the closing of the newspaper." The deputy director said that the government is using Luis Mora Sanchez, a LA PRENSA newspaperman who is in prison, to hurl "absolute slanders" against the newspaper.

Mora Sanchez has told the Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network that U.S. Embassy officials participate in the meeting of the opposition newspaper's board of directors. Chamorro Barrios said: "We don't need foreign advisers. We have not asked for them, nor will we accept them."

Commentary Condemns LA PRENSA

PA241935 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 May 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] A press conference, marked by the lies and slander that are typical of people who do not even know how to think for themselves, let alone how to love the fatherland, was held today by the rich owners of the ultrarightist newspaper LA PRENSA for foreign newsmen and a single local journalist, who happened to be from this radio station. Fidelfo Martinez and Jose Esteban Quezada, two other Nicaraguan newsmen, were also present, but they work for transnational news agencies.

Pedro Joaquin Chamarro Barrios, co-director of the newspaper, Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, Horacio Ruiz, (Carlos Ramirez), (Carlos Halman), Pablo Antonio Cuadra and other directors of that rich newspaper held the press conference this afternoon. Chamorro Barrios was the main speaker. With abundant use of slander, he ranted and raved against the revolutionary government in an alarming reflection of his myopic view of the Sandinist revolution.

Before going into detail, we must tell our people that we did not cover the beginning of the press conference, because the doorman at the building that houses LA PRENSA told us he had consulted (Carlos Ramirez) and had been told not to allow us to enter. The press conference began with the reading of a press release handed out to the press, a document that we consider to be disgraceful and defamatory to our people's martyrs. Apparently, our announcement over this station that our newsman had been barred from the conference had an impact at the last minute, and the doorman himself told us that it had been a regrettable mistake and that he had been instructed to allow us to enter to cover the press conference beging held by the rich owners of LA PRENSA newspaper. However, the local and foreign newsmen all noticed that it was Jose Esteban Quezada, a leader of the UPN [Union of Nicaraguan Journalists], who handed out the infamous document to newsmen.

The LA PRENSA directors were applauded by all the newspaper's employees. Moreover, Enrique Garcia, a staffwriter, read a document couched in terms derogatory to our revolutionary government, which protested, in their words, the arrest of two LA PRENSA newsmen. Similarly, according to them, we have stated here that the entire staff was pressured to sign the document on threat of being booted out, to use their term, of the statements made by Luis Mora to all the Nicaraguan people and to the courts. [sentence as heard]

All we can say about that document is that it is entirely untrue, just like the statements made by the Somozist counterrevolutionaries and by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, himself.

Because it is truly important, we report that the LA PRENSA employees acted with amazing vulgarity toward our personnel who were covering the press conference held by the rich owners of that newspaper. A few women, who are apparently secretaries of the newspaper, grossly insulted our technician Alberto Obando, as he was preparing to broadcast the conference. We inform our people that we have recordings of everything that was said this afternoon that newspaper's newsroom: the statements made by Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios, (Carlos Ramirez), Enrique Garcia and Pablo Antonio Cuadra Cardenal. They all spouted venomous slander against our revolutionary process, the same venom spouted by President Ronald Reagan in his pompous press conferences at the White House. This is the way they make use of the freedom of expression granted by our revolutionary government.

ANUDE COMMUNIQUE DEMANDS MORA SANCHEZ' RELEASE

PA240250 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Assembly of Democratic Unity, ANUDE, this morning issued a communique demanding the release of newsman Luis Manuel Mora Sanchez, who has been in Nicaraguan jails for the past 23 days. Mora Sanchez is a newsman of Managua's LA PRENSA and one of our newscast's correspondents. ANUDE Secretary General Wilfredo Montalvan will now read the communique:

[Begin Montalvan recording] The ANUDE expresses its most vigorous protest at the unjust imprisonment of newsman Luis Mora Sanchez, who is the editor [as heard] of the newspaper LA PRENSA of Nicaragua, a correspondent for Radio Impacto of Costa Rica, and secretary general of the Nicaraguan Social Democratic Party's Managua departmental executive council, and who has been enduring imprisonment for the past 23 days. The imprisonment of newsman Luis Mora Sanchez is a flagrant violation of human rights and clearly shows the repressive nature of the FSLN's Marxist-Leninist dictatorship. By means of terrible tortures carried out by evil Nicaraguans and internationalists serving the FSLN, they forced newsman Mora Sanchez to voice slanderous charges against Msgr Obando y Bravo and the newspaper LA PRENSA, as well as to admit to his participation in false conspiracies against the government.

In this way, the Sandinist regime is creating the conditions to carry out new abuses against sectors opposing the Marxist-Leninist totalitarianism in our homeland with dignity. The ANUDE makes an urgent call to all democratic groups and governments of the world to demand that the Nicaraguan Government immediately release newsman Luis Mora Sanchez, who remains imprisoned and continues to be tortured in Managua jails for defending and exercising his right to freedom of speech. [end recording]

REPORTAGE ON CONTRA-ARMY MILITARY ACTIVITY

EPS Reports Contra Casualties

PA232323 Managua Sistema Sandinista de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] In the last week, the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] has inflicted 130 casualties on the counterrevolutionary task forces operating in northwestern Nicaragua. In their desperation, the attacking counterrevolutionaries destroyed 8 cooperatives and 11 agricultural production units. In addition, military sources have indicated that the counterrevolutionaries have suffered the disabling of two of their so-called regional commands. These organizations are new structures made up of three task forces having more than 1,000 counterrevolutionaries each. It has been estimated that four commands are currently attacking the country's northern area, while other task forces infiltrate the country's east and west, hurling themselves against peasant cooperatives and production units. According to the same sources, the damage caused by counterrevolutionaries in the past few days has been estimated at 10 million cordobas. Meanwhile, the EPS has continued dealing heavy blows to the counterrevolutionaries.

Peasants Repel Attack

PA241454 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The heroic peasants from an UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen] cooperative in the (El Garrobo) region, 25 km from Waslala, has prevented more than 200 Somozist mercenaries from taking over their cooperative. The mercenaries made a surprise attack at dawn on 22 May and set fire to the homes of the cooperative's peasants, but in the face of heroic resistance by the armed peasants from (Soaca), the criminal mercenaries financed by the Reagan administration fled to the mountains. The counterrevolutionaries have been trying to seize the town of Waslala, one of their main objectives, but they have failed because of the massive participation of the people in defense. This information was given to our correspondent Aldo Sanchez by Juan Macario Castro, in charge of the military information office of the Sandinist People's Army in Waslala. Pastor Rugama, a 12-year-old boy, played a distinguished role in the clash. From his trench he kept the mercenaries at bay. He is an example of valor and patriotism.

FAS Sinks Piranha Boat

PA241421 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The Sandinist People's Army [EPS] Public and International Relations Office yesterday morning announced that a Sandinist Air Force [FAS] plane has sunk a Piranha-type speedboat in the Monkey Point region, southern Zelaya Department. The source noted that the incident took place at 0850 when a Sandinist reconnaissance plane discovered the speedboat. The plane immediately went after the boat and sank it.

Several Piranha-type speedboats have been sunk in recent weeks. Seven of them have been put out of combat since 16 May. Two of these boats were destroyed by FAS on 16 May during a combined land-air attack in the (Lausiksa) region, 27 km north of Barra de Rio Grande. On 19 May, two mercenary boats were sunk 27 km north of Karawala, in central Zelaya.

PASTORA: PANAMA TRIP TO SEEK AID, NOT ASYLUM

PA232304 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Eden Pastora, Commander Cero, this morning denied in Panama that Alfonso Robelo, chief of ARDE's political directorate, and he have differing philosophies.

Actually, Pastora said, there are differences with certain sectors of ARDE that advocate a hasty union with the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN], which is fighting in northern Nicaragua, because he does not want an alliance with that group as long as there are former Somozist guardsmen in its ranks. Pastora said there are differences only with groups of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, MDN, which is led by Alfonso Robelo, but not specifically with Robelo himself.

Commander Cero said that the U.S. Government is applying strong pressure for the prompt establishment of that union, and that his troops operating in southern Nicaragua have not received any kind of aid for more than 2 months.

He said that this was the purpose of his trip to Panama: to seek aid from democratic sectors that in the past have helped his struggle.

Pastora Gomez denied having traveled to Panama to seek political asylum for his family and himself, or that he would travel to Cuba [as heard] to seek aid. However, Pastora said that he would travel to Venezuela to seek support for his struggle in southern Nicaragua.

The military chief of ARDE said he would continue fighting the Sandinists to the end, even if he has to fight alone. He added that he would not abandon positions won in southern Nicaragua, and that he would resume his struggle when he returns to Nicaragua in a few days.

PASTORA ON FDN ALLIANCE, U.S. 'PRESSURES'

WA251610 Rome IPS in English 23 May 84

[Text] San Jose, Costa Rica, May 23 (IPS) -- Nicaraguan rebel leader Eden Pastora today refused to rule out that his Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) would join forces with members of the Honduras-based anti-Sandinist group, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN).

Pastora, a former Sandinist guerrilla leader, told Costa Rica's Radio Monumental that he would never ally with the FDN leadership, which he charged was made up of former Nicaraguan national guardsmen of the Somoza dictatorship. But he said he could not rule out an alliance with FDN bases "formed by heroic peasants who fight to liberate their country." In the past, Pastora has said that as long as the "Somozists" led the FDN, he would not ally himself with that rebel group. He fought the National Guard in the 1979 insurrection against Anastasio Somoza's rule. He broke with the Sandinists in April 1982, after serving as deputy defense and deputy interior minister.

Both ARDE and the FDN are financed and supplied by the Central Intelligence Agency as part of the Reagan administration's "secret war" against the Nicaraguan Government.

In recent weeks, Pastora, also known as Commander Cero, has charged that the CIA was pressuring ARDE to join forces with FDN. He repeated the charge today, saying, "those pressures are seen by the fact that for the past two months we have received neither a bullet nor a pair of boots."

Pastora charged that the Reagan administration "wants to return to the Somoist past" because "it is incapable of coming to terms with a democratic revolution and fears everything that is revolutionary." He said "our greatest concern" is the possibility of an invasion of Nicaragua by the United States, "because the greatest danger is not Managua but the desire of that country (the United States) to pursue its own war in Nicaragua and not helping democrats to carry out our struggle."

Pastora said such an invasion would be an "error of historic magnitude" because the Nicaraguan people would unite behind the Sandinists and "the history of Vietnam" would be repeated. "Nicaragua has been the Central American country that has sufferred the most interventions, and that has fostered a great anti-American sentiment," he said.

Pastora has been in Panama since May 21, requesting political asylum for his family. ARDE sources said Pastora made the request following moves by the Costa Rican Government to control the rebel group's operations inside Costa Rica, where it is based.

Pastora confirmed that ARDE is in the midst of an internal struggle over allying with the FDN. "There are some who hysterically want an alliance with the FDN, without understanding that that would mean heading directly to death." The co-director of ARDE, Nicaraguan businessman Alfonso Robelo, reportedly supports such an alliance, and the issue has boiled over into public clashes between Pastora and Robelo.

ARDE sources said that two of the group's six-member directorate, Jose Davila of the Nicaraguan Revolutionary Armed Forces and Arnald Castillo, leader of the Solidarity of Democratic Workers, support Pastora's opposition to unification with the FDN.

BRIEFS

NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS -- Dr Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has sworn in Guerilla Commander Ramon Cabrales as deputy minister of domestic trade, Julio Marenco as minister delegate of the government junta to the 4th region, Edwin Zablah as minister delegate to the 5th region, and (Abel Abenedetti) as executive president of the Nicaraguan Institute of Insurance and Reinsurance, INISER. Those sworn in assumed their new offices immediately after the ceremony. [Summary] [Managua Sistema Sandinista de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 23 May 84 PA]

NEWSPAPER'S LEGAL STATUS CANCELED -- Through its General Directorate of Cooperatives, the Nicaraguan Labor Ministry has canceled the legal status of the cooperative known as Compromiso, which is mostly comprised of well-known journalists who published the newspaper EL PUEBLO. According to the resolution, the newspaper's legal status has been canceled because of the newspaper's inactivity for more than 4 years. The newspaper had been closed since 19 July 1979. [Summary] [Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 May 84 PA]

OLYMPIC COMMITTEE SUPPORTS IOC, MOVEMENT

PA242000 Paris AFP in Spanish 1302 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Lausanne, Switzerland, 24 May (AFP) -- Cuba, which has just announced that it will not participate in the Los Angeles Games, was caught in the midst of a contradiction when it signed a declaration in support of the IOC (International Olympic Committee) and the Olympic movement, it was stated here today. Manuel Gonzalez Guerra, head of the Cuban Olympic Committee, was among the signatories of the declaration issued yesterday by the ODECABE (Central American and Caribbean Sports Organization) after holding a meeting in the Colombian port of Cartagena.

According to the IOC note, the ODECABE stressed "the importance of the Olympic movement, which offers mankind the only chance to live in harmony despite racial, political, social, economic, and religious differences." In line with that view, the Latin American organization announced "1) that it will continue to endorse firmly the principles that give life to the Olympic movement and 2) that, as on the occasion of the previous games, it invites all Olympic committees to participate in the 23d Olympic Games."

The document adds that the ODECABE will make "every effort to invite those who have declared their intention not to participate to reconsider their decision in order to preserve the young people's interests and their participation in the Olympic movement, with the hope of making the world a place for peaceful coexistence."

MMENTARY ON REAGAN'S 9 MAY C.A. SPEECH

FL232144 [Editorial Report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 0100 GMT on 22 May began broadcasting a recorded commentary on President Ronald Reagan's 9 May speech, described by an unidentified commentator as "an abrasive speech essentially intended to describe in a tendentious and twisted fashion the situation in Central America." The commentator explained that the President's speech was given during the electoral campaign; film clips of the Democratic Presidential candidates were shown. The commentator then said that, in his speech, the President described the direction that U.S. policy in the Central American area should take during the remainder of his administration and especially during the succeeding 4 years if he is reelected.

Over an aerial view of the Pentagon, a still of an aircraft factory, and video of a tank factory, space maneuvers by astronauts, the Grenada invasion, President Reagan speaking, and an exterior view of the White House, etc., the commentator said: "The imperialist position on the path to follow in this region is part of the strategy drawn up by the most reactionary sectors of the United States, which threaten world stability and peace, and of which Reagan is the most faithful representative. It is well known that the present Yankee government is committed to the insane attempt to take militarism and the arms race to its highest level with the goal of dangerously altering the worldwide strategic arms balance with the USSR. Reagan's speech is a landmark in the imperialists' escalation against the peoples of Central America, in the desperate attempt to restore their domination and impede the necessary and inevitable changes demanded by the state of absolute misery and exploitation that cruelly scourges these lands."

Over video of Central American guerrillas, the commentator said that the President's speech makes clear his intention not only to impede the triumph of such revolutionary movements as the FMLN in El Salvador but also to defeat successful revolutionary governments and reverse the course of history by restoring imperialist domination.

The commentator then said that the immediate goal of the President's speech was that of getting the support of "diverse sectors within the United States for his present Central American policy, and especially to get the Congress to grant increased aid to the imperiled Government of El Salvador." He said the President also wanted to prepare U.S. public opinion for the use of force in Central America and against Cuba.

The commentator rejected what he described as Reagan's attempt to link Cuba to drug trafficking and described the "solid prestige of the Cuban revolution and its society, which are free of the ills that corrode the United States," as the best proof that Reagan lied.

Over video of the President and of what appears to be maneuvers by the Cuban Armed Forces, the commentator said: "The U.S. President's virulent and mendacious speech confirms our need to remain alert and prepared as long as the present electoral campaign lasts and to be even more alert and prepared afterward if, as everything appears to indicate, Ronald Reagan is reelected. At the same time, it reaffirms our conviction that it is imperative to strengthen our defense against the criminal plans of imperialism, made desperate by the realities of today, which reflect deep and irreversible changes in what they believed to be their eternal domain."

At this point a partial rebroadcast of President Reagan's speech starts, with simultaneous translation into Spanish over the President's voice. The translation appears to be accurate. When the President said that there are no plans to send U.S. troops to fight, the commentator said that the troops are already there and fighting. When the President said that the Sandinists who rule Nicaragua are communists who did not keep their promise to hold elections and share power with the Somozists, the commentator said that elections will be held on 4 November 1984. When the President described anti-Semitism and religious persecution in Nicaragua, the commentator said that "the Nicaraguan opposition manipulates the religious aspect."

The commentator accused the President of twisting the truth and misrepresenting the facts regarding the Nicaraguan revolution, the Cuban contribution to and presence in Nicaragua, the ultimate aims of U.S. policy in the area, the U.S. presence in Honduras, the political makeup of El Salvador, the aims of the Salvadoran guerrillas, the human rights situation in El Salvador, and the invasion of Grenada, among others.

At the conclusion of the translated rebroadcast of the President's speech, the commentator said: "One day, the U.S. people will judge as they should this dark age into which the ultrareactionary Ronald Reagan and his closest collaborators have sunk the United States And they will not be exactly proud of what — as the tenant of the White House concluded in his aggressive speech -- 'we are trying to do, or can do, in Central America.' The peoples of Central America know full well what Reagan is trying to do, and what most Yankee presidents have done over the past 150 years. They know very well what the real causes of the present conflict are. None of the regimes -- most of which have been military regimes -- that have been installed in those countries has attempted to solve the people's situation, characterized by oppression, exploitation, and misery. The surrender of these regimes to the United States has been unconditional. They are neither politically nor economically independent and they are not militarily independent either. U.S. transnational companies have been plundering the scant resources of those nations for decades, and the International Monetary Fund is imposing more and more burdensome conditions on them. Their foreign debt, which amounts to quite a few billion dollars — Costa Rica alone owes more than $3 billion -- is suffocating them.

Reagan's famous economic plan for the Caribbean basin has stagnated, apart from the fact that the ridiculous amount of $350 million is insufficient to improve the economy of even one of these countries. This is the real picture today of the nations of Central America and the Caribbean."

The special 45-minute program concluded with recorded selections from one or more speeches by Fidel Castro in which he stressed Cuban readiness to fight off a U.S. attack on Cuba. The program ended at 0145 GMT.

ANPP ISSUES MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY WITH AFRICA

FL250040 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] presidency has issued a message on tomorrow's commemoration of Africa Day. The text of the message follows:

In commemorating tomorrow as Africa Day and the OAU's founding anniversary, the ANPP sends a fraternal and warm message of congratulations to all the African people.

On this significant date, facing both imperialism's (?many) aggressions and the Pretoria regime's [word indistinct], who are trying to destabilize the revolutionary and proletarian governments of this region, Cuba reiterates once again its solidarity with the African peoples' struggle for independence. We express special solidarity for the African National Congress [ANC] and SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] -- worthy representatives of the Namibian and South African peoples' just cause to defend their nations' sovereignty and independence. We also express our firm support with the peoples and governments of the Frontline who have shown a valiant attitude when faced with South Africa's aggression, backed by U.S. imperialism and the presence of other western countries.

Faced with a continuous battle against colonialism, neocolonialism, and other forms of exploitation, we are convinced that the nations who take a progressive stance will triumph because they represent a just cause. We reiterate our hopes of strengthening the strong ties that exist among our parliamentary organizations. And we will fight together for a better world based on peace, which is every nations' highest aspiration.

Signed, Flavio Bravo Pardo, ANPP President, Cuba

BOHEMIA PUBLISHES MESSAGE FROM JARUZELSKI

FL242040 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The popular magazine BOHEMIA has published a special interview granted to BOHEMIA by First Secretary of the Polish United Workers Party Wojciech Jaruzelski and has inserted a message from Army General Jaruzelski to the Cuban people. In his message the top Polish leader tells the Cuban people that, of the countries that are located far from Poland, the Cuban nation is especially close to him. He recounts his memory of Cuba when he visited it as Polish minister of defense: I feel great respect and have a sincere liking for Comrade Fidel Castro and have had friendly relations with Raul for a long time, the first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party says in his message to the Cuban people. In the message published by BOHEMIA, Army General Wojciech Jaruzelski says that Cuba and Poland are linked by the courage shown on the battlefield and by their socialist advances.

DUARTE SAYS NO TALKS WITH SALVADORAN GUERRILLAS

PA240427 Havana Internatonal Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Jose Napoleon Duarte, who on 1 June will take over as head of the Salvadoran regime, reiterated in Washington that his government will not negotiate with the guerrillas, and he said that he will control extreme right-wing terrorism. In a news conference before ending his visit to the United States, he said he will make changes in the Salvadoran military leadership, including the removal of current Treasury Police Chief Colonel Nicolas Carranza, founder and leader of the death squads. Nevertheless, he confirmed that he plans to keep on the current defense minister, General Eugenio Vides Casanova, who is linked to the murder of four U.S. churchwomen in San Salvador in December 1980.

Almost immediately after his electoral victory was confirmed, Jose Napoleon Duarte traveled to Washington to support President Ronald Reagan's Central American policy and to try to convince the U.S. Congress to approve the $62 million requested by the White House to give emergency military aid to the Salvadoran regime.

SALVADORANS' TRIAL OPENS IN NUNS' KILLINGS

FL241326 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1207 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] In the Salvadoran City of Zacatecoluca, 42 km from San Salvador, the trial of five members of the National Guard has opened. They are accused of murdering four U.S. churchwomen December 1980. The trial has been delayed for more than 3 years and its being held is one of the conditions imposed by the U.S. Congress for $62 million in military aid to that Central American nation. Nevertheless, analysts believe that the measure is just another comedy staged by the administration of President Reagan to begin [Jose] Napoleon Duarte's administration and to make a big noise over steps taken toward a political opening and at the same time to ensure that the Salvadorans receive aid from Congress.

Guardsmen Found Guilty

FL241800 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Five members of the Salvadoran National Guard have said that the United States offered them money to confess to the murders of four churchwomen in El Salvador in 1980. They were found guilty by a special court. The haste with which the verdict was rendered after a delay of nearly 4 years confirms the theory that Washington needed to seemingly clear up the crime in order to approve proposed aid to the Salvadoran regime.

NICARAGUA PROTESTS PRESENCE OF HONDURAN BOATS

PA241634 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 May 84

[Excerpt] At the United Nations, Nicaragua has denounced the concentration of Honduran fishing boats in its territorial waters and described this as a new provocation toward unleashing a conflict. A letter sent by Nicaraguan Foreign Affairs Minister Miguel D'Escoto to his Honduran counterpart Edgardo Paz Barnica stated that on 21 May, several fishing boats of the Tegucigalpa government were discovered while involved in illegal activities in the Miskitos Cays area. This unusual action, the document stressed, can lead to armed confrontations, and serves as a pretext for the CIA to nurture a tense climate of war that justifies an open attack on Nicaragua.

PANAMA'S PRESIDENT-ELECT SUPPORTS CONTADORA

PA232046 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Panamanian President-elect Nicolas Ardito Barletta has said that his government will continue to give full support to the Contadora Group's peace efforts in Central America. In a statement for the Panamanian press, Ardito Barletta expressed his belief that the fundamental responsibility for solving the area crisis falls on the Central Americans themselves. The Contadora Group, he noted, can support that effort with patience, creativity, perseverance, and intelligent diplomacy.

The president-elect also announced that before assuming his post he will visit several countries in Latin America, Europe, and Asia to strengthen bonds with nations that are friendly to Panama.

ARGENTINE ARMY CONFIRMS ARMS ROBBERIES

PA242342 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The Argentine Army General Staff Wednesday issued a communique in which it confirmed that arms, ammunition, and explosives were stolen by members of the Armed Forces, who have been placed under arrest. These robberies had been taking place since the middle of last year and were carried out in garrisons in Buenos Aires and in Comodoro Rivadavia Province, the investigations indicated.

U.S. SUSPENSION OF FLIGHTS TO PERU REPORTED

PA232042 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Based on the expiration of air traffic agreements between the two countries, the U.S. Civil Aeronautics Board has decided to suspend flights between the United States and Peru. The step was taken after Peru said that the bilateral agreement that has been in effect since 1946 damages Peruvian interests. With the suspension of its flights, the United States is trying to obtain greater privileges for its airlines that fly to Peru. The Peruvian Senate has asked the Foreign Ministry to adopt retaliatory measures in response to the U.S. pressure.

Other reports state that the ancient imperial city of Cuzco has been virtually occupied for more than a week by more than 15,000 peasants, who are demanding better prices for their coca leaves. Meanwhile, the Peruvian daily LA REPUBLICA reported that 1,000 workers at the Transportation Ministry's Department of Roads have initiated a hunger strike and have begun a march toward the imperial city of Cuzco.

VENEZUELA APPROVES CREDIT TO PAY DEBT INTEREST

PA232320 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] The Venezuelan Cabinet has approved an additional credit of more than $4 billion to pay for this South American country's foreign debt interest. According to an official estimate, this sum represents the total annual interest Venezuela must pay on its foreign debt. The delay in paying its interest has been one of the obstacles Venezuela has encountered in trying to refinance its foreign debt, estimated at approximately $27 billion. The cabinet's approval of an additional credit to pay the foreign debt interest could help in renegotiating the foreign debt, which is fundamental for Venezuela to reactivate its economy.

GRENADA

BRATHWAITE SAYS ECONOMY, EMPLOYMENT IMPROVING

FL241816 Bridgetown CANA in English 1720 GMT 24 May 84

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, May 24 (CANA) -- The Grenada economy, struck a severe blow by last October's bloody political upheaval, is gradually picking up, thanks to foreign aid and new investment, chairman of the island's caretaker government, Nicholas Brathwaite, said here today.

He said that in view of an ease in the government's cash flow problem, the administration had ceased negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on reactivating a suspended three-year economic assistance programme entered into by the ousted People's Revolutionary Government (PRG). "We thought it would be better to leave such a decision to (the) elected government (that will be chosen in general elections later this year,)" Brathwaite told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA) in an interview. "It may well be that because we expect the economy to improve further this year that it might not be necessary for the elected government to enter into discussions with the IMF," he added.

The 14.1 million dollar (U.S.) credit facility was suspended after just three months by the IMF following the ouster of the PRG in a military coup in which leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and half his cabinet were killed. The non-political advisory council, as the interim government is called, was appointed after U.S.-led troops invaded the island and toppled the military.

Brathwaite, here to attend a passing out ceremony today of recruits at the regional police training centre, said Grenada's unemployment problem, which worsened following the October events, was expected to ease considerably with the coming on stream of at least three new industries and an intensification of the government's road rehabilitation programme. Construction work on two hotels with a total of 550 rooms was due to get underway shortly, he added, and the resumption of the international airport project by July would help to put over 300 Grenadians in gainful employment. "The unemployment situation is improving," the advisory council chairman said. "It is better now than when we took office (on November 15)." He was however unable to give figures.

Brathwaite said the Grenada police force had recruited around 200 since last November, and more would be taken on by the end of the year when the strength of the force is expected to be carried to 450. He said the government's investment committee had so far received at least 35 applications from potential local and foreign investors, including Americans, Trinidadians, Britons, and Canadians.

The interim government chairman said response to the enumeration of voters for the forthcoming general elections was "very good," and everything was running according to schedule. After compilation of the final voters's list, the advisory council will take a decision around August or September regarding the date of the poll, Brathwaite said. The elections will return Grenada to parliamentary rule after a four and a half year Marxist experiment, initiated with the overthrow of the Sir Eric Gairy government, elected in the last general elections here in 1976.

Regarding the island's security, Brathwaite said the situation was "much more relaxed" now. Though there was an increase in the number of reported cases of theft within the last month, police were moving to contol the problem, he added.

BUDGET APPROVED, AIRPORT GETS LARGEST SLICE

FL231940 Bridgetown CANA in English 1849 GMT 23 May 84

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, May 23 (CANA) -- Grenada's interim government has approved a 211 million dollar (1 EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) budget for the 1984-85 financial year, 43.5 million dollars less than that for the previous year which was presented by the ousted People's Revolutionary Government (PRG). A government statement today said recurrent expenditure had been estimated at 113 million dollars, with 98 million dollars allocated for capital expenditure.

The Ministry of Construction, charged with completing the island's international airport, is receiving the biggest single slice of the funds -- 90 million dollars. The statement said the government was allocating 33 million dollars for repaying public debts and 16 million dollars for education. A fifteen million dollars budget will go to agriculture, 13 million dollars to health, and six million dollars to the police force which is being reorganised after last October's political upheaval in which the PRG was ousted in a military takeover by a radical faction of the ruling New Jewel Movement.

The government statement did not say if the interim administration, installed after a U.S.-led invasion that removed the military regime, planned to impose new taxation during the new fiscal year.

HAITI

VIOLENT STREET DISTURBANCES IN GONAIVES

PA242200 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2116 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Port-au-Prince, Haiti, 24 May (EFE) -- According to reports received in Port-au-Prince, disturbances have occurred on the streets of Gonaives, the country's fifth most important city. Military trucks carrying soldiers, as well as two helicopters, were seen in the area. According to reports, they had been sent to pacify the area. Soldiers have been stationed at the Toussaint L'Ouverture Barracks on La Martiniere Street in Gonaives.

The residents of this city on Haiti's western coast have been ordered to stay at home after 1800. Several people have been detained and several others have reportedly been killed.

The Haitian Government has not made an official announcement regarding these incidents, although a delegation headed by Public Works Minister Alix Cineas is reportedly in Gonaives trying to get the situation back to normal.

JAMAICA

SEAGA, MANLEY ISSUE LABOR DAY MESSAGES

FL232204 Bridgetown CANA in English 2113 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 23 (CANA) -- Prime Minister Edward Seaga promised "tangible benefits" in his budget presentation tomorrow in a Labour Day message that sought to pacify growing trade union displeasure at his economic policies. Seaga also called for workers understanding his policy of structural adjustment. He said the process had been painful but was the "sure road" to providing a secure economic base and more jobs for Jamaican workers.

In his message, leader of the opposition People's National Party (PNP), Michael Manley, said that not only were workers facing economic pressures, they were also confronted with subtle pressures for removal of many of the rights they had won in various struggles.

The Seaga government, in line with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), has imposed a series of austerity measures, including sharp devaluations in the local currency, cutbacks in public spending, and tightened credit. The administration has also been accused by union leaders of not consulting with the labour movement on matters fundamental to economic recovery, while urging workers to increase productivity.

With the fall in living standards, the government has promised to increase the 30 dollars (JCA) a week minimum wage and to provide tax relief to the lower bracket of income earners. The prime minister is expected to outline the programmes during his budget presentation. "So, as was the case last year, when Labour Day coincided with the announcement of a reduction of the tax on overtime work...Jamaican workers can look forward on Labour Day 1984 to a number of tangible benefits," Seaga said.

The prime minister also promised to table in Parliament tomorrow a green paper, outlining the findings of a task force established two years ago, on worker attitudes and labour legislation.

"Jamaican workers (on Labour Day) can also look forward to participation in a national dialogue which will influence reforms of existing labour laws and conditions at the work place," the prime minister said.

Seaga, in defense of his economic programmes, said the economy was undergoing "necessary structural adjustment which, like all changes, has brought with it shifts and displacements." "But this is the only way to rebuild the economic base of the country and the only way in which we can secure the future of the worker, and hope of employment for those now without jobs," he said.

Manley said workers were under pressure from all sides -- rising prices and alleged attempts to erode their rights. Manley said that there was no serious attempt to pass into law amendments to existing labour relations laws despite agreement on them. He charged that work participation as a means of developing close manager/worker relations has been reversed by the Seaga government. "We must constantly be on guard to ensure that the gains made by workers of Jamaica are not lost either through indifference or default," Manley said.

MINISTER SAYS U.S. PROTECTIONISM COULD HURT CBI

WA251313 Rome IPS in English 22 May 84

[Text] Kingston, May 22 (IPS) -- U.S. protectionist measures could prove to be a "geopolitical and economic disaster" and undermine the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), says Jamaican Minister of Industry and Commerce Douglas Vaz.

Speaking yesterday to a group of U.S. businessmen and government officials at a conference on the CBI in San Jose, California, Vaz said the United States, which proposed the aid and trade package, had many interest groups clamoring for protectionist measures. "To the extent that they are allowed to influence official policy, that can only undermine the well-meaning intentions of the CBI," he said, according to reports of his statement monitored here.

Vaz said the Caribbean and Central American countries' support for the economic package should not be frustrated by either "bureaucrats or myopic vested interest groups."

Countries of the region are following an export-led strategy advocated by both the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, at a great social cost to the citizens, Vaz explained. "It is of paramount importance to my government that the social cost being borne by Jamaicans as a result of devaluation should be offset by long-term benefits from export growth," said the Jamaican official. Vaz said the Jamaica Labor Party (JLP) government had devalued the local currency "to bring it in line with a realistic rate." Other "bold decisions" taken by the administration had proven to be painful, but were the best means of achieving economic recovery.

The many incentives and attractions offered by the CBI would be wasted if these opportunities for investors were not exploited, he said.

OPPOSITION CHARGES NO IMF AGREEMENT YET

WA251309 Rome IPS in English 21 May 84

[Text] Kingston, May 21 (IPS) -- Jamaica and the International Monetary Fund have not yet signed agreement for a $180 million standby credit facility, according to the opposition People's National Party (PNP). Seymour Mullings, who was finance minister while the PNP was in power from 1972-1980, said Jamaica's application has been deferred for further consideration while the Fund awaits the implementation of certain "pre-conditions" it has demanded.

Last March, Prime Minister Edward Seaga promised that a new pact with the IMF -- to replace a three-year extended fund facility agreement abandoned last November -- would be ready by mid-May. Seaga said then the budget for 1984-85 would be presented to Parliament May 22. Mullings told a news conference today that there were unconfirmed reports that Prime Minister Seaga would not be making his budget presentation, originally scheduled for tomorrow, a suggestion that he was still awaiting word from the IMF.

Mullings said the PNP would not accept any "excuse" for delay as the "country's most important item on the economic agenda cannot remain at a standstill for a date to be fixed." The spokesman said that weeks after the budget was presented last year, it "became irrelevant" and the party was "serving notice that we will not be tolerating another year of financial fancy, or for the country's business to be treated with flippancy." Party chairman Percival Patterson, who also spoke at the news conference, said his information was that the IMF was insisting on a "Morocco-type solution" for Jamaica. This involved an agreement preceded by "prior conditions" including devaluations, massive reduction in fiscal deficit, further taxation, substantial lay-offs in the public sector, and elimination of food subsidies.

TURKS AND CIACOS ISLANDS

CHIEF MINISTER ANNOUNCES 24 MAY ELECTIONS

FL241247 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Elections will be held in the Turks and Caicos Islands next Tuesday. The country's chief minister called the elections 6 months before the end of his party's term.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT SUSPENDS TALKS WITH IMF 'INDEFINITELY'

PA250255 Paris AFP in Spanish 0237 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, 24 May (AFP) -- President Salvador Jorge Blanco tonight announced that the Dominican Government has indefinitely suspended the talks to renew a financial agreement with the IMF.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS L.A. DEBTOR'S CONFERENCE

FL231926 Bridgetown CANA in English 1842 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, May 23 (CANA-REUTER) -- The Dominican Republic, where riots over IMF-recommended price rises claimed over 50 lives last month, today backed a forthcoming conference of Latin American debtor nations. Foreign Minister Jose Augusto Vega Imbert said he expressed the government's support in a diplomatic note to the embassies of the four sponsor countries -- Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico. The date and venue of the meeting have not yet been fixed.

PARAGUAY

PLR ACCUSES REGIME OF INTIMIDATION IN ARRESTS

PY230328 **Asuncion** HOY in Spanish 19 May 84 p 7

[Excerpt] The Executive Board of the Radical Liberal Party [PLR] has released a declaration "strongly condemning the arrest of Authentic Colorado Movement leaders Mario Milciades Meljarejo, Ruben Dario Veron, and Celso Castillo. This is an intimidatory measure at a time when the government should show respect for the ideals of the founders of the nation instead of honoring them with pompous parades which deplete the economic resources of a stoic and exploited people. The government denies Paraguayans the basic right to live in their fatherland under the protection of the Constitution and the law which the government consistently violates. There is no respect for the authority of the branches of government as it should be under a democratic government as a zealous defender of inalienable human rights. The opposition forces should ponder this perverse action because it is a regression of the political process to a repressive system that should have already been overcome."

RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, TORTURE REPORTED, DECRIED

PY250212 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2020 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Rome, 24 May (EFE) -- Today in Rome the League for Human Rights and the Liberation of People reported the violation of human rights in Paraguay, asking for the release of Margarita Baez, a communist who is under arrest without trial. The accusation was made in a letter addressed to Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner and delivered to the Paraguayan Embassy in Rome. The letter refers to the "systematic violation of human rights in Paraguay," emphasizing the case of Margarita Baez, "who has been repeatedly tortured under suspicion of being a member of an opposition group."